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Your essential daily news | WEEKEND, JANUARY 15-17, 2016

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'The perfect candidate'

REDEVELOPMENT

Former Quebec premier to head city rail relocation



Braeden Jones
Metro | Winnipeg

Premier Greg Selinger admits relocating rail lines in Winnipeg is a "big picture" job, and says "nobody is better suited" to tackle it than Jean Charest.

Selinger announced Wednesday the former premier of Quebec will be heading Manitoba's task force to develop the terms of reference and a feasibility study for rail relocation.

"To me he's the perfect candidate for this job," Selinger said, lauding Charest's tremendous experience in intergovernmental affairs" and noting its value in the job ahead.

While he was premier of Quebec, Charest unveiled "the Plan Nord," a major economic development strategy for capitalizing on the province's industries and creating jobs.

Charest said managing the evolving rail industry is "extremely important" in doing the same for Winnipeg and Manitoba.

"We want to get it right," he said. "Moving the rail yards makes a lot of sense."

Charest said the project "will change the city of Winnipeg. When it's done, this will not be the same city."

Selinger said the task force, which his government is kickstarting with a \$400,000 investment, has to determine what lines can be moved soon and how best to move more in the long-term.

"We have an option of looking how to move a rail line in North Winnipeg up on McPhillips Street called the Beach Line, and of course we have the big opportunity of looking at what can be done with the CPR rail yards in the centre of the city," he said.

No costs or hard time lines were floated during the announcement, but Selinger said the near-term projects could take place "within the next year" and the feasibility study "could take one to two years."

Local reaction, page 4



Jamil Mahmood says a 24-hour facility is essential for teens who have nowhere else to go.
STEPHANIE TAYLOR/METRO

Drop-in centre for youths gets funding

metroNEWS

SAFE SPACE

AND THE OSCAR GOES TO... SOMEONE WHITE

CANADIANS ROCKING THE OSCARS



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Netflix will crack down on customers who use proxy services to view content not available in their countries.
Business

Your essential daily news

Weekend, January 15-17, 2016

HUNTING RIGHTS

Chief asks to meet Saskatchewan's Wall

A Manitoba grand chief is calling for a meeting with Saskatchewan Premier Brad Wall after accusing the province of harassing indigenous hunters.

Derek Nepinak with the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs has written a letter to Wall outlining concerns over hunters who the chief says have been ticketed and threatened by Saskatchewan officials.

The chief of the Pine Creek First Nation has said that officers raided two homes last month and confiscated moose meat harvested from their traditional territory, which crosses the Manitoba-Saskatchewan boundary.

Saskatchewan officials have said they recognize the rights of indigenous hunters and would only step in if hunters were on private land without permission.

Nepinak says the law is clear — indigenous hunters have the right to feed their families by traditional means.

He says Wall should meet with aboriginal leaders with

the aim of reconciliation.

"To this end, I will always be personally open to meet with you," Nepinak wrote in the letter Thursday.

Saskatchewan hands out 6,000 moose tags to sport hunters every year, but allows officials to "bully" and "harass" indigenous people who are trying to feed their families, he said.

"There is a correlation between a growing limitation of access to our traditional food sources and the explosion of diabetes to epidemic levels in our families," Nepinak wrote. "As such, the ability of a hunter to bring home natural foods to their families is critical to the health of the family."

"I would like to extend to you the opportunity to meet with Indigenous leadership to begin a discussion about deconstructing the colonial legal and regulatory regimes of the past and begin moving in the direction of truth and reconciliation."

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Grand Chief Derek Nepinak THE CANADIAN PRESS



A sculptor works on one of the walls for the Ice Bar to open in the Great Ice Show at The Forks. BRAEDEN JONES/METRO

Warmerpeg no more

WEATHER

Temperatures need to stay low for Great Ice Show: Official



Braeden Jones
Metro | Winnipeg

An unseasonably warm winter has been interrupted by our more characteristic Winnipeg cold — just in time for ice-dependent events.

Andy Zhao, president of Canadian Ice Festival Inc., said the Great Ice Show at the Forks needed

the cold snap, and needs it to continue.

"At the beginning, we didn't have enough ice, that was challenge No. 1 that gave us lots of hard times, but now everything's OK," he said.

Zhao is counting on opening the ice show to the public on Jan. 25, and said it would be best if the temperature stayed below 10 C for ideal ice conditions.

If it gets too warm during the day, "it could potentially damage the ice," as refreezing too often makes the sculptures less than crystal clear.

"Anything -9 C and under is perfect," he said.

The Forks spokeswoman Chelsea Thomson is counting on the same for the Red River skating

trail, scheduled to open as early as next week.

"We're super-excited temperatures have cooled and it's allowing us to get on the ice," she said. "(But) at this point it's not thick enough to get our machinery on yet."



Anything -9 C and under is perfect.

Andy Zhao

Crews are on the river on foot and flooding it to get it thick enough. If it stays cold, people could be skating on the river trail soon, "but it really depends on temperatures," Thomson said.

Lynne Roy is waiting for the green light to get on the river for the 15th annual Ironman curling bonspiel Feb. 5 to 7.

"We're very optimistic," she said. "We're still planning on getting everything onto the river as far as we know if the weather keeps up."

Roy explained that it was "touch and go" for a while with The Forks not optimistic the river would freeze in time during Winnipeg's warm spell, so the bonspiel has some on-land locations lined up to fall back on.

Organizers of all three events should be happy — temperatures are to stay a brisk -21 C and lower for the entire weekend, according to Environment Canada Thursday.

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CENTREPORT CANADA RAIL PARK

Bulk export-loading terminal planned

Toronto-based grain handler and marketer BroadGrain Commodities Inc., will be an anchor tenant in a new rail installation that's set to break ground at Manitoba's inland port near Winnipeg.

The family-owned agribusiness is spending up to \$25 million to build a bulk export-loading operation and bean-processing facility, which the Manitoba government says will help pave the way for construction of the CentrePort Canada Rail Park.

The operation will occupy nearly 12 hectares and will involve loading 150-car unit trains with Manitoba commodities, including wheat, canola, soybeans, corn and specialty crops.

CentrePort will spend \$2.4 million on switches and tracks to link the operation to the Canadian Pacific Railway mainline.

The Manitoba government is providing tax increment financing revenue from its Community Revitalization Fund to assist with the rail link, and is also realigning Provincial Road 221 to aid development of the park.

The facility will also act as

the western Canadian flagship terminal for BroadGrain, which has offices in Europe, Asia, Africa and the Middle East.

CentrePort Canada is a nearly 8,100-hectare inland port and foreign trade zone located on Winnipeg's northwest side. The rail park is being built in phases on more than 280 hectares just south of the CP mainline.

Diane Grey, president and CEO of CentrePort, said in a release that BroadGrain's project is an ideal anchor for the park.

"They are in need of high-volume rail services in order to move the highest quality of products, which ultimately is the objective of our first phase of development," she said.

Zaid Qadoumi, BroadGrain's president and CEO, said in the same release that supply-chain management continues to play an important role in the business.

"This investment will solidify our ongoing commitment not only to the western Canadian farmer, but also to our global consumers providing an alternative shipping method."

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Jean Charest speaks Thursday at the Forks as Premier Greg Selinger and Mayor Brian Bowman look on. BRAEDEN JONES/METRO WINNIPEG

Rail relocation task force gets underway

CITY PLANNING

North End renewal group feeling positive about planning



Braeden Jones
Metro | Winnipeg

When announcing the provincial task force to plan Winnipeg rail relocation, Premier Greg Selinger said the lines had been a "source of division" in the city.

Robert Neufeld, head of the North End Community Renewal Corporation (NECRC), agreed.

"We have enough barriers in

our city to not be divided North and South by rail lines," he said. "(Rail relocation) just means the re-unification of this city."

Neufeld said he and the NECRC feel "very positive" about the province taking a serious look at the idea, and looks forward to a myriad of potential benefits for residents and business alike.

"I would say the local residents would benefit first, and there's a lot of reasons for that," he said, noting traffic flows less dependent on deteriorating bridges and improved transit as early wins. "There's the connection between the communities and the potential of development of that property."

On the development side, he's hoping the task force takes

"We have enough barriers in our city to not be divided North and South by rail lines."

Robert Neufeld, NECRC

a holistic approach, and looks at "more housing and mixed use (development)" along with some green space.

Selinger said there are a couple hundred acres to be freed up that are prime for urban renewal projects to achieve what Neufeld hopes for as well as greater density.

Neufeld said he obviously sees

the potential, but emphasized the need for groups like his to be engaged in the process.

"The local community certainly should be a part of the discussion, and the more they are involved the more ownership they will have in the future," he said, explaining that residents and businesses "are going to be wanting to have a good conversation."

Jean Charest, whom Selinger appointed chair of the task force to explore rail relocation, said that his baseline study would be supplemented with that kind of consultation.

"This project becomes possible if and only if those who are at all levels of government and the community are part of it," he said.

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The association's executive director Jamil Mahmood in his office. STEPHANIE TAYLOR/METRO

'They need a safe place'

SAFETY

Overnight drop-in to open for youth thanks to funds



Stephanie Taylor
Metro | Winnipeg

Teens who find themselves unable to go home at night will soon have a new place to stay in Winnipeg's west end.

After a recent campaign to raise awareness and fundraise money for an overnight drop-in space for the inner-city neighbourhood, the Spence Neighbourhood Association received word the province would put down \$380,000 toward the project. "They need a safe place," Jamil Mahmood, the association's executive director, said Thursday. "They need a place where they have positive love and support and community around them."

The province says funding will be delivered over the

next three years, with the first \$30,000 by the end of March. That's about the latest Mahmood hopes to have the new space up and running with adequate staffing. He said the plan is operate 24/7 on weekends and special holidays, such as spring break, and to judge whether they need to expand into weekdays.

The space will be run out of the city-owned Magnus Eliason Recreation Centre on Langside Street, where the association currently holds their day programs. Establishing a safe space in the community began as a grassroots idea, Mahmood said, with many of the neighbourhood's young people coming forward, saying their friends did not feel safe at night.

"People didn't understand the real situation of youth in our city." No overnight drop-in space currently exists for at-risk youth in the area, meaning kids who cannot go home either end up on the streets or taking shelter in party or drug houses, Mahmood added. "If we want to tackle the gang problem in our city we have to at least function on the same hours that they do."

\$380K

Amount of money the province is putting toward the project.

IN BRIEF

Man arrested after killing in Westwood hotel

Winnipeg police have arrested a man in connection to a murder in a Westwood hotel last month.

Police said Darcy Jerome Beatty, 29, of St. Theresa Point faces a charge of aggravated assault after emergency crews responded to

the report of an injured man in a hotel in the 400 block of Westwood Drive on Dec. 11. Officers said the victim had suffered upper body injuries from an apparent assault and was taken to hospital. George Gabriel Flett, 57, also of St. Theresa Point later died of his injuries on Jan. 5. METRO

INSURANCE REPORT

Transcona intersection worst in city

10,000

Number of accidents that happened at the five worst intersections.

Manitoba Public Insurance (MPI) has released a list of Winnipeg's top five collision intersections.

Nearly 10,000 accidents have taken place at these intersections over the past decade, according to a release issued Thursday. The data was collected from 2005 to 2014.

The city, MPI and CAA Manitoba, along with other provincial partners, have announced the launch of a new awareness program, which

includes installing more signage on or near high-collision roadways.

"Signage alerting motorists that they are approaching a

high-collision intersection with a secondary message of 'Don't Follow Too Close' will be conspicuously placed on all approaches at Kenaston/McGillivray and Leila/McPhillips for the duration of the two year pilot project," reads the release.

"Special enforcement to be funded by Manitoba Public Insurance will occur for the first year of the project at Kenaston/McGillivray and Bishop Grandin/St. Mary's." METRO

+ TOP 5

- Leila/ McPhillips (2,236)
- Kenaston/McGillivray (2,298)
- Kenaston/Grant (1,747)
- Lagimodiere/ Regent (1,700)
- Bishop Grandin/ St. Mary's (1,546).

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'We feel like we're somebody'

FUNDRAISING

Band made up of homeless, local talent to release new CD

Meg Crane
For Metro | Winnipeg

A Winnipeg band that combines the talent of local and homeless musicians is fundraising to put out their second album.

JD and the Sunshine Band was formed three years ago out of Sunshine House, a drop-in and resource centre used primarily by drug

and solvent abusers as a safe, judgment-free space.

"We were doing a project here some years back for street folk. It was called the Solvent Users Recreation Project," said JD Ormond, Sunshine House project coordinator.

It went so well that when the project ended, they continued the band and recorded an album, said Ormond.

"We made it to No. 1 on the local charts," Ormond said.

The band has also done live performances, including a nurses' conference in Yorkton, SK and opening for Dwight Yoakam.

On Feb. 12, some band members will have their first opportunity to go to Festival du Voyageur when they play there.

Band member James Cook said they're not in it for the money or to become stars, although they enjoy the recognition when their friends see them on TV.

"We feel like we're somebody. We're not just bums down the street, we're people," Cook said.

"We're just trying to make



JD and the Sunshine Band recently performed at the Sunshine House. CONTRIBUTED

people happy and prove it to them that we're somebody."

The songs JD and the

Sunshine Band play are based on the stories and jokes of people who use the centre.

Ormond said the band will put together a personalized song for everyone who donates at least \$250 to a Fun-

+ SUNSHINE

- Sunshine House was created in 2001
- Its focuses are harm reduction, population health promotion and social inclusion
- Find out more at sunshinehouse.com or donate to the fundraising campaign at fundrazr.com/campaigns/1155r0/sh/c4J2P7.

dRazer campaign it launched to raise \$8,000.

"That's just going to cover our costs of recording," Ormond said.

Ormond said they'll go ahead with producing the album even if they don't raise all the money.

Band member Gilbert Spence agrees.

Regardless of the fundraising campaign's outcome, he said they'll start recording in February to get fans a new album by the summer.



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A family is asking for the public's help after they say **two men threw their 13-year-old son, who lives with an intellectual disability, in a dumpster.** CTV WINNIPEG/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Disabled boy tossed in garbage

INVESTIGATION

Child spent hours trapped in cold weather before rescue

When his 13-year-old son came home late from school last week, John Morrisette figured he had just gone on "one of his walks."

It wasn't until the next day that Morrisette learned his intellectually disabled boy, Jean-Micheal, had been found in a Winnipeg garbage bin as temperatures dipped to -15 C.

Morrisette said his son had been assaulted by two men, thrown in the dumpster and left to freeze. He was found a few hours later by a woman who let him out.

"I was very angry with the guys who would do this to my son," Morrisette said in an interview Thursday. "You can see he's a harmless child. He doesn't talk much. He keeps to himself, and two men have hurt him."

The young teenager wasn't seriously hurt, but Morrisette said he's not letting him walk home alone anymore.

The family contacted police, who are investigating.

Morrisette has only been able to get bits and pieces of what happened from Jean-Micheal, who is "too scared to talk about it."

Nicole Langlois, who works

nearby, told CTV Winnipeg that she heard faint cries for help as she walked past the large garbage container but couldn't pinpoint where they were coming from. A gut feeling made her return a few hours later and she found the boy sleeping and covered with garbage.

"All he kept saying was, 'Help. They pushed me in here,'" Langlois said. "I kept trying to talk to him and ask him who and he didn't talk back to me."

As soon as she helped him out, he ran away and headed for home a few blocks away.



Are we that wrecked of a society?

John Morrisette

Words can't describe how grateful the family is to Langlois, Morrisette said.

"She's my son's angel," he said. "I thank her every day."

Jean-Micheal can't describe who did this to him, Morrisette said. The family is appealing to anyone who might have seen something to come forward.

"You don't jump a kid in daylight and nobody see it," he said. "My son can't identify them. But somebody can..."

"Be my son's voice, somebody." THE CANADIAN PRESS

HEALTH

Province offers stop-smoking aids

The Manitoba government is offering more free nicotine-replacement products for people who want to quit smoking.

The government says up to 6,000 people will receive eight weeks' worth of free gum, patches, lozenges and other products.

Healthy Living and Seniors Minister Deanne Crothers says details on how people can apply for the products will be announced in the spring.

The government has already offered similar programs, including a pilot project at a Winnipeg hospital in 2013.

The new program is part of a flurry of pre-election announcements by the NDP government in advance of the April 19 provincial election.

The government scheduled eight announcements for Thursday alone.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



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Scenes from the Steve Fonyo biopic *Hurt*, left, and *The Sleeping Giant*, right, described as a tale of three boys. Both films play at the Canada's Top Ten Film Festival. CONTRIBUTED

A celebration of Canadian film

CINEMA

Winnipeg Film Group screens top movies as part of festival

Meg Crane
For Metro | Winnipeg

Hollywood's got nothing on Canadian film.

That's according to Dave Barber, programming co-ordinator at Cinematheque.

For the second year, the Winnipeg Film Group (WFG) is bringing Canada's Top Ten Film Festival to Cinematheque. "Basically, it's a collection of the best," Barber said.

A jury of Canadian industry professionals voted on the top 10 Canadian features, short films and student short films, all of which make up the festival that is travelling across Canada.

"I believe very, very strongly in promoting Canadian work. I find it's often marginalized," Barber said.

Hollywood has the money to produce and promote films to



I believe very, very strongly in promoting Canadian work. I find it's often marginalized.

Dave Barber, programming co-ordinator at Cinematheque

such an extent that films from other countries don't have a chance, Barber said.

"We don't have the resources to fight that competition," said Barber. "They dominate too much."

But that doesn't stop WFG from trying.

It's showing all films that

are part of the festival from today until Feb. 28, and it's even bringing in Alan Zweig, director of one of the festival winners, *Hurt*.

"Seriously, *Hurt* is a great film," said Barber. "I think he's captured something uniquely Canadian."

Hurt is a documentary about

Steve Fonyo, a fallen Canadian hero who raised millions for cancer research before getting in trouble with the law.

Zweig said he was flattered that one of his films made it into the festival this year.

"I know some of the films I'm there with, and I think I'm in good company," Zweig said.

He's also looking forward to coming back to Winnipeg because, outside of Toronto, it's the place where he's received the most support for his cinematic work.

"Dave Barber from the Cinematheque is one of the great

+ FEST FACTS

Canada's Top Ten Film Festival was created by the Toronto International Film Festival.

All films are directed by a Canadian citizen or resident and are produced in Canada.

forces in Canadian film," Zweig said.

This is good news for Winnipeggers looking to support local film.

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A scene from last year's Snowdance Festival at Falcon Trails Resort. CONTRIBUTED

Dancing in the cold

FESTIVAL

Snowdance hosts bands and winter activities

Meg Crane
For Metro | Winnipeg

Those wanting to prove their Canadian winter prowess have the opportunity to do so at the Snowdance Festival at Falcon Trails Resort this weekend.

The two-day music festival, now in its sixth year, bring folks out to the ski resort for bands and the ultimate Canadian winter activities, said Emily Christie, one of the owners of the lodge and organizers of the festival.

"The grand finale for the weekend is heating up in the

sauna then jumping in the lake," Christie said.

She acknowledges the polar bear swim isn't for everyone, but with the array of activities there's bound to be something for people of all ages and cold-tolerance levels.

Outdoor curling, yoga in the snow, igloo building and skiing behind horses are just a few things that will keep Snowdance attendees busy.

"It's a good opportunity to sample a lot of almost everything," Christie said. She said it's also a way people can reclaim winter and learn to embrace the chilly weather.

The festival started in 2010, a year when there was so little snow, Falcon Trails Resort's ski hills could not be opened.

Christie said the resort is often staffed by musicians and that year, they were left sitting around with their instruments and not much work to do.



The grand finale for the weekend is heating up in the sauna then jumping in the lake.

Emily Christie, one of the Snowdance Festival organizers

They came up with the idea to start a music festival and it grew from there.

"It's kind of like a rain dance, you know? Appeasing the snow gods," said Christie.

The festival draws in about 200 people a day, which is capacity for the resort.

While they have not yet sold out for the Jan. 15-16 festival, Christie warns folks should get their tickets quickly before the remaining few are gone.

ALBUM

Twin musicians inspired by local legend on debut release

Nigel Moore
For Metro | Winnipeg

On their debut album *Fairweather*, out this week, Winnipeg singer-songwriters and twin siblings Lucas and Madeleine Roger retell the legend of a reclusive fur trapper who fell into madness and mysteriously lost one of his hands, decades ago in the Whiteshell.

Growing up at their cabin on Florence Lake, the twins heard tall tales from cottagers about the trapper, who lived alone for months on end and once emerged from the woods missing a hand. They were told he died in the 1980s, before they were born.

"His name was Alex Kolan-ski," said Lucas, who wrote the song. "Every cottage on our lake has a favourite theory. Some say he got it caught in a trap; others say he had a pet bear that turned on him."

On stage, Madeleine and Lucas find comfort in each other's presence. "I do feel really comfortable around my brother, for obvious reasons, and more at



Local indie-folk duo Roger Roger will celebrate the release of their debut album *Fairweather* on Sunday at the West End Cultural Centre. JORDAN JANISSE

ease when he's around," said Madeleine.

"It's nice when you're doing something as vulnerable as sharing your songs with the world, to be doing that with somebody who you know there's nothing you could possibly do or say that would change your relationship with them. It's a solid founda-

tion from which to be taking that risk."

Roger Roger, as the duo are called, will have their album release party at the West End Cultural Centre this Sunday. Tickets are \$12 at the WECC, Ticketfly.com, Music Trader and the Winnipeg Folk Festival Music Store.

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Manitoba



The Manitoba Legislative chamber may be where political change happens, but physical change is proving trickier. CONTRIBUTED

Accessibility a priority in legislature renovations

GOVERNMENT

Challenge will be preserving heritage status, says official

Former member of Parliament Steven Fletcher might soon win a seat in the Manitoba legislature, but there's currently no way for the quadriplegic politician to get to the chairs inside the chamber.

The government is in the middle of a long-term plan to improve accessibility to the

96-year-old building and has made major improvements for visitors. But inside the chamber, not much has changed.

Even getting there has proven difficult for Fletcher on occasions when he represented the federal government during his 12 years as a parliamentarian.

"The elevators are a few inches too small, at least," said Fletcher, who recalled that his assistant had to take down foot supports on Fletcher's motorized wheelchair so he could fit inside a lift to the second floor where the chamber is.

Once inside, Fletcher was "relegated to the very back" because

there are stairs between the doors and every chair.

That will change, said Chris Hauch, an assistant deputy minister in charge of accommodation services.

The government is looking at long-term alterations, but also short-term fixes that will be in place right after the April 19 provincial election, in which Fletcher is running. One challenge, Hauch said, is the legislature is classified as a heritage building and changes are not supposed to deter from its historical appearance.

"We value heritage and accessibility," Hauch said. "It's



I think the lesson is, when we're building new buildings, to make them accessible at least in part, right from the start.

Former MP Steven Fletcher

going to be a creative process figuring out how to meet both agendas."

Planning has been underway for more than a year — long before Fletcher declared his intention to run for provincial office. The government has brought in advisers from the disabled community and from Winnipeg city hall to help.

Speaker Daryl Reid said he

is committed to ensuring politicians with any disability can do their work. Ramps could be installed, although finding an area without a steep slope is a challenge. A motorized lift is another option, although that could require cutting into some of the chamber's marble and need approval from the Heritage Department.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

APARTMENT FIRE

Couple saved by instincts

A Winnipeg couple say it was survival instinct, not bravery, that made them jump out of a second-storey window to escape a fire in their apartment.

Dzintars Giertmanis and Alena Giertmane are from Eastern Europe and settled in Manitoba in 2012 and 2013.

The couple say before fire broke out on New Year's Day, Dzintars was talking to his mother on Skype and Alena was with their baby when she suddenly she heard a cracking noise and saw their Christmas tree on fire.

They tried to escape by the front door of their apartment but the door wouldn't open.

Dzintars then went to the window, opened it, and jumped, breaking his leg in multiple places, but he managed to stand up, opening his arms to catch his seven-month-old daughter.

Alena jumped next, seriously injured her back and broke her two heels.

Dzintars laid baby Agnese on the snow and started calling for help.

"Something happened with the lock, we tried once, twice but the room was filling with smoke so quickly we had to find another way," Alena said.

The couple says a girl took the baby, wrapped her up and took her inside to warm up, while the building's caretaker called 911.

The couple says they are overjoyed their baby was unharmed.

They have no tenants insurance — they say they had no idea it existed.

Alena had back surgery and her feet remain in casts. She is expected to stay in hospital for another eight weeks.

Dzintars will need another four weeks to recover. Baby Agnese is staying with a friend while her parents heal.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Male sage grouse, fighting as part of their competition for a female. JERRET RAFFETY/RAWLINS DAILY TIMES VIA THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sage grouse might make way north

ECOLOGY

Montana looks at plea for help repopulating bird numbers

Montana officials are set to decide Thursday whether to relocate dozens of sage grouse to the Canadian province of Alberta, a plan opposed by some lawmakers who say the state should look to bolster its own fragile population first.

The Montana Fish and Wildlife Commission will vote on a recommendation by the state Fish, Wildlife and Parks agency to send 40 greater sage grouse to Alberta this year, followed by 40 more in 2018 and 2020. Canadian officials requested the relocation to aid in the recovery of its population, which is at about 120 of the chicken-sized birds.

The Montana sage grouse would come from populations in Valley and Phillips counties that have rebounded this year. Fish, Wildlife and Parks agency director Jeff Hagener said there are an estimated 10,000 sage grouse in the area and removing the initial 40 hens would have an "insignificant impact."

The program would be evaluated each year to determine if Montana's sage grouse population is healthy enough to proceed with future relocations, Hagener said.

Last year, federal officials announced restrictions on 67 million acres of public lands in 11

states, including Montana, to protect the bird's habitat and prevent it from becoming a threatened or endangered species. Montana is taking its own measures to protect sage grouse habitat on state lands and to give incentives to keep landowners from damaging the bird's habitat.

Several Montana lawmakers oppose the relocation plan because of the politics that have surrounded protecting the bird at the expense of economic development. The state Environmental Quality Council on Thursday sent a letter to Fish, Wildlife and Parks requesting a three-year block on moving the birds out of the country.

Instead, a relocation program should take place within the state, from areas where there are an abundance of sage grouse to those where there are few, said Sen. Jim Keane, D-Butte.

Others on the council suggested that the sage grouse could be moved to the border, but kept in Montana. The birds could then fly to the Canadian side or stay on the Montana side.

"Then nobody has their feathers up," said Sen. Gene Vuckovich.

A previous relocation of 41 sage grouse was done in 2011 and 2012. Thirteen of the females in that group initiated nests and only two nests resulted in hatchlings, while a number of the birds were killed by predators.

Officials on both sides of the border said the pilot program showed the Montana birds could integrate with the Alberta population. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Sled used to smuggle pills

Authorities say a Canadian man was arrested while pulling a sled carrying more than 82 kilograms of prescription pills across the border into the United States.

The U.S. Attorney's office says Cedrik Bourgault-Morin was apprehended early Wednesday after he crossed the border from Quebec along a railroad line into Vermont.

He was wearing white camouflage and Border Patrol agents were alerted to his presence when he triggered a sensor.

Prosecutors say agents found 300 vacuum-sealed bags of Xanax pills in a duffel bag on the sled. Xanax is an anti-anxiety medication. The pills had a street value of US\$1.6 million. Bourgault-Morin was being held Thursday in a Vermont prison.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bus flip injures nine people

Nine people aboard a Greyhound bus were transported to hospital Thursday after the vehicle flipped on its side beside an icy highway south of Prince George, B.C.

RCMP said the bus lost control, went off the road and landed on its side in a ditch next to Highway 97 just before 8 a.m.

B.C. Emergency Health Services spokeswoman

Preet Grewal said five ambulances rushed to the scene.

She said everyone on the bus was taken to hospital and that three people are seriously hurt while the others have minor injuries. The bus was northbound on its way to the central B.C. city of Prince George from Kamloops. Greyhound Canada and the RCMP are investigating the cause of the crash. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and Jennifer Flanagan, centre, President and CEO of Actua, after taking part in a virtual reality tour at the new Google Canada Development headquarters in Kitchener, Ont., Thursday. NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

ECONOMY

Diversity key to economic growth: PM

Shifting away from reliance on oil and other commodities is key to Canada's economic recovery and future growth, an upbeat Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said on Thursday.

Speaking at the opening of Google's new Canadian headquarters, Trudeau acknowledged the pain many people are feeling amid an unprecedented

slump in oil prices.

"We saw the trend lines coming," Trudeau said. "That is why we put forward an ambitious agenda to invest in Canada, to count on Canadians to be able to bounce back from low commodity prices by diversifying."

Despite the "difficult times," Trudeau said he was optimistic about the country's prospects,

saying the opening of Google's 17,000-square-metre facility was an example of the "positive news" in the economy.

Canadians, he added, have much to offer the world in terms of innovation.

"There are tremendous bright spots," he said.

Trudeau spoke of the increasing importance of the high-tech

sector, with computers and how to program them critical to success in a world undergoing "extraordinary changes."

Earlier in the day, the Liberal prime minister visited BlackBerry's HQ, and stopped by at the University of Waterloo to announce \$12 million for research into clean-water technologies.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Federal crime plan reviewed

PUBLIC SAFETY

Prevention tactics studied for success



Michael Woods
Metro | Ottawa

The Liberal government is planning to put hundreds of Conservative crime-prevention initiatives under the microscope to determine which ones worked — and which ones didn't.

A request for proposals issued Wednesday says Public Safety Canada is launching a year-long study examining the sustainability of crime prevention projects the department has funded.

Starting in 2006 — when Stephen Harper's Conservatives took office — the department has funded about 800 crime prevention projects under the National Crime Prevention Strategy, originally pegged to have a \$43-million annual budget, but which suffered \$29 million in cuts.

The strategy's current priorities, the RFP says, are to address early risk factors among children, youth and young adults at risk of offending.

The study would review a sample of the 800 projects to determine the extent to which they have been sustained beyond government funding; in other words, which ones were adopted by non-governmental agencies and other levels of government.

A final report would be due this November, with a presentation to department officials in mid-December.

The RFP says Public Safety has been researching and reporting on the impact of its crime prevention projects for the past eight years "in order to demonstrate what works in crime prevention in Canada."

"Currently, (Public Safety) research efforts are focusing on the sustainability of successful, evidence-based crime prevention projects beyond NCPS funding."

The department has yet to respond to questions about the crime prevention strategy.

POLITICS

Kevin O'Leary denies any comparison to Donald Trump

Both of them are business titans, authors, and TV personalities — one actively running to lead the U.S. political right, and the other thinking about doing the same in Canada.

But if Kevin O'Leary does indeed decide to go into federal politics, it won't be because he's trying to be Donald Trump, the brash Canadian businessman said Thursday.

"I understand what he is doing with the media, and you can certainly claim I am trying to do the same, but I am not Donald

Trump," O'Leary said in an interview with The Canadian Press.

"I'm a Lebanese-Irish, I don't build walls (and) I am very proud of the society we're building in Canada, I think it is the envy of the planet."

O'Leary, a Canadian entrepreneur who became known outside business circles thanks to his stint on CBC's *Dragons' Den* and its American equivalent *Shark Tank*, said he's got nothing in common with Trump on social, foreign or domestic policy.

He said he thinks Trump's surprise success in vaulting to the front of the Republican leadership race is a reflection of a populist movement underway in the U.S.

It could happen in Canada, he added, but it's not what he's trying to do.

"It's an interesting observation; I can see why people would say it, but that's not what motivates me."

Rather, O'Leary is contemplating politics for two reasons: Canadian graduate students are

telling him they think they need to leave Canada to make their fortunes, and he has strong objections to the job done so far by Alberta Premier Rachel Notley.

Earlier this week, he offered to invest \$1 million in Canadian energy companies if Notley would step aside as premier. Notley fired back, saying a Toronto businessman had no business telling Albertans how to vote.

"She said, 'Bring it on,'" O'Leary said. "I'm bringing it on."

O'Leary, who calls himself

politically agnostic, said he's eyeing a run for the Tories because of timing — it's the only party actively seeking a new leader.

Political leadership is the only way to create the change Canada's economy is demanding, he added.

"I am looking at this saying, like everybody else, 'This is interesting, 18 months from now the country is going to have make a decision about who should be the opposition, I think I could be very effective there,'" he said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Kevin O'Leary says he's nothing like Donald Trump.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Rob Lawrie attempted to take four-year-old Bahar Ahmadi to Britain from a migrant camp in France. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

No jail for Briton who helped girl

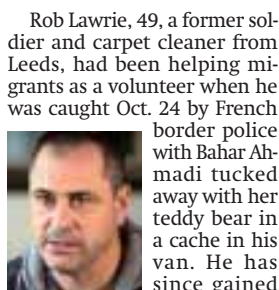
SMUGGLING CHARGES

Rob Lawrie tried to rescue Afghan from migrant camp

A British man who risked being convicted as a smuggler prevailed in court Thursday, convincing judges that he acted with his heart when he tried to deliver a four-year-old Afghan girl from a squalid migrant camp in France to family members in Britain.

The three-judge panel threw out the smuggling charge — which carried a penalty of up to five years in prison — convicting him instead of the far less grievous crime of endangerment and suspended the 1,000-euro (\$1,560) fine.

The court room erupted in cheers at the verdict.



Rob Lawrie THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Rob Lawrie, 49, a former soldier and carpet cleaner from Leeds, had been helping migrants as a volunteer when he was caught Oct. 24 by French border police with Bahar Ahmadi tucked away with her teddy bear in a cache in his van. He has since gained a fan club on Facebook and among volunteers like himself who are helping refugees and other migrants.

"The French justice system sent out a message today," he said after the verdict. "When compassion is in the heart, compassion will win."

The court cited his "personality" in its decision and said the far less serious conviction served as a "warning."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MILITARY

French troops to increase by 2,300

President Francois Hollande says France will increase its total number of troops this year for the first time in 10 years, prompted by the extra security measures taken following the deadly Paris attacks.

Hollande said in a speech Thursday the defence budget will reach 32 billion euros (\$50 billion) in 2016 and the total number of troops will be raised by 2,300.

France's military is involved

in several operations abroad including the anti-ISIL coalition in Iraq and Syria and counter-terrorism operations in Africa's Sahel region.

Last year the French military consisted of a total of 270,000 people, down from 343,000 in 2006.

France remains under a state of emergency since the November attacks that cost 130 lives, with 13,000 troops deployed on its territory. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



French President Francois Hollande speaks to young soldiers on Thursday at a military school in Guer. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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7 killed in Jakarta attacks

TERRORISM

Canadian man dead

INDONESIA

ISIL claims bombing of Starbucks, shootings

A bustling shopping area was shaken by the blasts of suicide bombers and gunfire as onlookers fled in terror.

But when Thursday's assault in central Jakarta was over, the death toll was far lower. Of the seven killed, five were the attackers themselves and only two were civilians — a Canadian and an Indonesian. Another 20 people were wounded.

Still, authorities believe the violence that left the city of 10 million on edge for hours was a loud announcement of the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL)'s presence in the world's largest Muslim-majority nation.

Supporters of ISIL circulated a claim of responsibility on social media resembling the militants' previous messages.

The attackers carried handguns, grenades and homemade bombs and struck a Starbucks

cafe and a traffic police booth in the Indonesian capital's highest-profile attack in six years.

Authorities said they found a large, undetonated bomb and five smaller devices in a building near the cafe.

"So we think ... their plan was to attack people and follow it up with a larger explosion when more people gathered," said Maj. Gen. Anton Charliyan, the spokesman of Indonesia's national police.

Jakarta police chief Maj. Gen. Tito Karnavian said the attackers had links to ISIL and were part of a group led by Bahrum Naim, an Indonesian militant.

"We have identified all attackers," Charliyan said. "We can say that the attackers were affiliated with the ISIL group," he added, using another popular acronym for the group.

The claim was shared on Twitter late Thursday, and the U.S.-based SITE Intelligence Group said it also was circulated among pro-ISIL groups on other media.

The message said attackers carried out the Jakarta assault and had planted several bombs with timers. It differed from Indonesian police on the number of at-



1



2



3

1 A bouquet of flowers is placed in front of the explosion site on Thursday. GETTY IMAGES 2 The Starbucks cafe where an attack took place displays the message "Pray for Jakarta." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS 3 Indonesian servicemen stand guard as police collect evidence from the site. AFP/GETTY IMAGES

tackers, saying there were four.

Taufik Andri, a terrorist analyst, said although the attack ended swiftly and badly for the attackers, their aim was to show their presence and ability.

"Their main aim was just to give impression that ISIL supporters here are able to do what was done in Paris," he said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

THE LATEST

Police have told an Indonesian TV channel that they have arrested three men on suspicion of links to the attack in Jakarta that killed a Canadian. Depok area police chief Col.

Dwiyono told MetroTV the men were arrested at dawn at their homes in Depok, near Jakarta. Dwiyono, says the men are suspected militants and are being questioned.

A Canadian man was killed in Indonesia's capital Thursday when gunmen launched a series of co-ordinated attacks police said were linked to the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant.

Jakarta police chief Maj. Gen. Tito Karnavian told a news conference that the first attack — a suicide bombing — happened at a Starbucks, causing customers to run outside, where two gunmen opened fire, killing the Canadian and wounding a bystander.

Two other suicide bombers attacked a nearby traffic police booth, killing themselves and an Indonesian man.

Shortly after, Karnavian said, a group of policemen was attacked by two remaining gunmen, using homemade bombs. This led to a 15-minute gunfight, he said.

All five gunmen were killed and 20 people were wounded in the attacks, police said.

Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said Ottawa was working with Indonesian authorities to confirm the reports of a Canadian killed in the attacks.

"The hearts of Canada and Canadians go out to the people of Indonesia and all the families and victims of these terrible attacks," he said. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Balbir Atwal, owner of the California 7-Eleven that sold one of the three winning Powerball tickets, holds up a \$1-million cheque from the California State Lottery. RINGO CHIU/GETTY IMAGES

Three split Powerball

U.S. LOTTERY

Winners of record payout have yet to come forward

An unprecedented \$1.6-billion Powerball jackpot that became a national fascination will be split three ways, by mystery winners in Florida, Tennessee and California.

The winners did not immediately identify themselves Thursday, but they bought their tickets in Munford, a town of about 6,000 in Tennessee; the modest Los Angeles suburb of Chino Hills; and at a supermarket in Melbourne Beach, Fla., where residents of a nearby housing development were heard partying loudly after Wednesday's draw.

Spain's massively popular Christmas lottery, known as "El Gordo," is ranked as the world's richest, though it does out millions of prizes rather than one large jackpot like the Powerball.

The winners of the world-record jackpot overcame odds of 1 in 292.2 million to land on all the numbers: 4-8-19-27-34 and Powerball 10. They can let the jackpot be invested and thereby collect 30 annual payments totalling an estimated \$533 million, or split \$983.5 million in cash all at once.

The huge draw also produced eight \$2-million Power Play winners and 73 \$1-million winners nationwide, who matched all five white balls but missed the red Powerball, said Sally Lunsford of the Kansas Lottery.

\$1.6B

The amount that will be split by winners in Florida, Tennessee and California.

The California ticket was sold at a 7-Eleven; the Florida ticket at a Publix grocery store. Tennessee officials did not immediately say which of the three Munford stores offering Powerball tickets produced the winner.

That store will get a \$25,000 cheque under state rules. Florida's store collects \$100,000. In California, a \$1-million bonus will be shared between the Chino Hills store owner and the 7-Eleven company.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

GERMANY

Syrian refugees rerouted to Merkel by bus

A bus carrying 31 Syrian refugees arrived in Berlin from southern Germany on Thursday night as a district councillor in Bavaria followed up on his pledge to Chancellor Angela Merkel that he'd send refugees her way if his district could no longer provide accommodation.

The act came amid ongoing concern about how Germany will deal with 1.1 million asylum-seekers that flooded in last year. Peter Dreier, a Landshut councillor, said he wanted to

"send a sign that refugee policy cannot continue like this."

Dreier said he had talked with Merkel on the phone last year, warning her that Landshut was reaching its capacity and that he'd put refugees on buses to Berlin if his district could no longer handle the influx.

Merkel's spokesman Steffen Seibert said in a statement that the city of Berlin had agreed to offer accommodation for the refugees for their first night in Berlin. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



These people were aboard the bus to Berlin. AFP/GETTY IMAGES

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RIVER PARK SOUTH

IN BRIEF

Ebola death in Africa after WHO said epidemic over

According to reports, hours after the World Health Organization declared Thursday an end to the deadliest Ebola outbreak ever, the disease was confirmed to have killed one person in Sierra Leone. METRO, WITH FILES FROM THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Turkey attacks ISIL positions

Turkish tanks and artillery attacked ISIL positions in Iraq and Syria Thursday, in retaliation for the suicide bombing in Istanbul which killed 10 tourists, PM Ahmet Davutoglu said. Close to 200 extremists were declared "rendered ineffective." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Users won't get away with murder: Netflix

STREAMING VIDEO

Company vows to shut down use of proxy services

Netflix says it's planning on cracking down on users who use virtual private networks and proxy services to view content not available in their countries.

Many of the company's distribution deals with major studios and content providers are negotiated on a regional basis, meaning certain titles are only available to users in certain countries.

Some Canadians use VPN services to stream Netflix movies and TV shows available in the United States, which according to the website Netflixable has around twice as many available titles. The U.S. version of Netflix also features more Hollywood blockbusters and recent seasons

of popular network shows than its Canadian counterpart.

In a blog post, David Fullagar, Netflix's vice-president of content delivery, said the company is making progress in licensing content across borders, but is now implementing new measures to end the use of so-called unblockers and other proxy services.

The company has always been against the use of such services and has said it takes measures to shut them down, but Fullagar said the company is "evolving" its approach to the problem and the new strategy will be in place in the coming weeks.

According to a April 2015 report by Media Technology Monitor, roughly two in five English-speaking Canadians has a subscription to the video-streaming service, with nearly one-third saying they had accessed the American version of the service.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



One-third of Canadian subscribers admit using unblockers to access the American version of Netflix. ISTOCK/GETTY IMAGES

BANK OF CANADA

Economists predict rate cut next week

A growing number of economists predict the Bank of Canada will cut interest rates next week in response to the economic hit from slumping oil prices.

The move should lead to lower borrowing costs for consumers and businesses, which could boost spending and put further pressure on a falling Canadian dollar. That, in turn, could help boost exports.

However, economists also cautioned that after eight years

of record low rates, a further cut could have mixed results. They said the price of houses in overheated markets like

Toronto and Vancouver could potentially be boosted, while only modestly helping drive exports.

The Bank of Montreal and Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce are the latest to join a chorus of forecasters predicting a quarter-point cut in the central bank rate on Jan. 20.

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IN BRIEF

Wikipedia gets another source of cash

Wikipedia is getting additional money as it turns 15 on Friday. A new endowment created for it will start with \$1 million US donated by Jim Pacha, a software engineer who died in 2014, with a goal of \$100 million by 2026.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

OFFICE FURNITURE

Hootsuite founder creates cheaper cardboard stand-up desk



The Oristand stand-up desk created by Hootsuite founder Ryan Holmes sells online for \$25 US. CONTRIBUTED



Emily Jackson
Metro | Vancouver

Hootsuite founder Ryan Holmes made his first billion dollars developing a social media platform, but his latest business idea came from an experiment with decidedly low-tech cardboard boxes.

Holmes announced Wednesday the launch of his new company Oristand, which sells easy-to-assemble, ergonomic-

ally correct cardboard stand-up desks for \$25 US (\$35 CDN) — a fraction of the price of typical stand-up desks that sell for at least \$200.

A sore back and a desire to try out standing at the office without a major investment gave Holmes the idea to build cheaper stand-up desks, Oristand co-founder Steve Suchy said.

Suchy, who works in architecture and interior design, developed five or six prototypes before landing on the current

design, which has no fasteners and goes between sitting and standing "quite effortlessly."

"We're certainly not health experts but through all the research that's out there, it really does seem that standing for a portion of your day can be a real benefit," he said.

And the company is bullish that people will spend \$25 on material they typically throw in the blue bin. The product is precisely designed for easy setup and takedown and is less than an inch thick when flat

so can be stored easily.

"We suspect they should last several years at least, which is probably a little more than you'll get out of your average cardboard box," Suchy said, adding the original prototype is still in great shape after a year of use.

The cardboard boxes are manufactured in Seattle and come in one size and three different colours. Companies can put custom logos on the boxes, which are recyclable and can be purchased at oristand.co.



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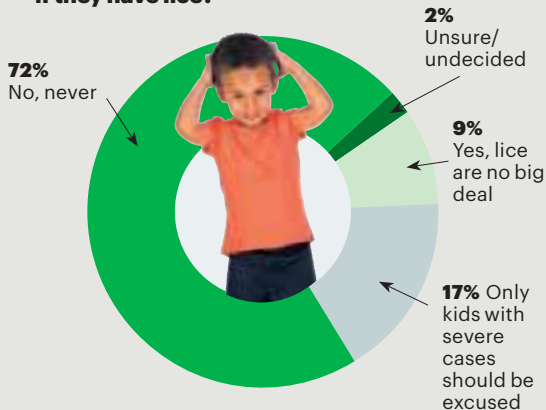
Metro POLL

The facts of lice

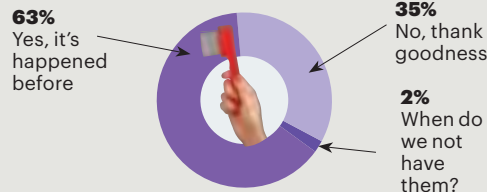
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School boards across the country, on the advice of the Canadian Paediatric Society, are revoking the rule that children with head lice must stay home from school. A few creepy crawlies — which cause only mild itching and don't spread disease — are no reason to interrupt kids' education, the society says. Head lice don't spread disease (just embarrassment and anxiety) and many kids who are found to have nits don't actually have lice, leading to a lot of unnecessary absences. So why the uproar about letting lousy kids in the classroom? We asked our readers.

1 Should children be allowed to attend school if they have lice?



2 Have your children or anyone in your family ever had to deal with lice?



3 If you are OK with kids who have lice attending school, why?

66% I'm not OK with that!
11% Sending kids with lice home is stigmatizing
11% Lice are not worth interrupting education over
4% You can't keep ahead of lice, no point in trying
4% Lice is not that big a deal
4% Other

It's more embarrassing for children to attend school with lice than stay home until they are treated.

The problem was never-ending when my four children were small. It's not a disease, it's an everyday issue.

A 24-hour rule is enough as long as the parent does their part.

Between the shampoo and the coin laundry, lice end up costing hundreds of dollars to get rid of.

WE ASKED Metro readers

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD

metroview

They's the word of the year, and for good reason

Its award season, and "they" won.

The American Dialect Society, which hosts what it considers the premiere word-of-the-year event, voted "they" as the winner for 2015 — particularly, "they" in the form of a third-person singular pronoun to refer to gender-nonconforming people.

They're right, of course. As are the many like-minded others (including the Washington Post). It should be used. Both because reality necessitates a common pronoun that can be applied to people who are not he or she, and also because every person deserves to be referred to accurately and respectfully.

As a writer, however, "they" has been hard to swallow.

For at least the last few years, and especially when writing about trans issues, I've had sources ask to be referred to as "they." I never denied that request. But I never completely acquiesced.

Instead, I avoided pronouns altogether, and wrote around the problem.

"They" has long been used in a way (e.g., "Everybody loves their mom" instead "Everybody loves his or her mom") that bothers no one who isn't a hardline grammarian. Shakespeare, Jane Austen, you and me — we're all fine with it.

But some uses of "they" sound off-kilter to me. To wit:

"Susie loves her mother, and they loves their father too."

Or, more likely to arise in my work, "I love my mother," Susie said. And their father, they added."

Clunky, no? Jarring, too. Like walking off the sidewalk curb without expecting to.

It's all English's fault. Other languages have gender-neutral pronouns; their speakers haven't spent years concocting stand-ins with no consensus. Among the offerings over the years: "ne," "e," "thon" or "jee." Some universities, including Harvard, let students self-identify on registration forms as "ze," "e," or "they."

Bill Walsh, a copy editor at the Washington Post and keeper of the paper's style guide, called "they" "the only sensible solution to English's lack of a gender-neutral third-person singular personal pronoun." Increasingly, there is a consensus around "they," and we should be grateful. It is much, much better than "ze."

I'd even argue it's a win for so-called prescriptivists — those who prize the rules of language, as opposed to the fluidity of its usage.

If "they" becomes the agreed-upon pronoun for those who are not hes and shes, then we have a new and very useful rule.

And as someone who's often found rules comforting, this, too, is welcome.

Elegance will have to wait.

Time to crack up the myth of mid-life crisis



Genna Buck
Metro | Toronto

Watch out for that mid-life crisis. Dad will fall into a deep depression and climb out with a shiny motorcycle and a half-his-age girlfriend to match.

Until recently, that idea was both accepted science and conventional wisdom.

But a new study — the first to follow Canadian adults' happiness over a long period of time — tells a different story.

The paper, in the journal Developmental Psychology, throws cold water on the notion of a mid-life crisis. Put scientifically, it challenges the theory that happiness (the measure of how satisfied people report they are with their lives overall) follows a U-shaped curve throughout life (carefree youth, miserable middle age, happy old age). The researchers used two

Canadian data sets, representing about 1,600 people. One followed a group from age 23 to 37 and asked them periodically about happiness — and each time, they reported feeling happier on average. The set looked at a different group from age 18 until 43. They said they were happier from their teens to 30s, with just a very slight drop at 43.

"We can't read too much into that," said Nancy Galambos, the lead author and a professor of psychology at the University of Alberta. "Even with that slight dip, they were much happier at age 43 than they were, on average, at age 18 or in their early 20s."

Because this was a longitudinal study (it followed the same people over time), I'm apt to trust it over past "snapshot"-style studies that surveyed people of different ages and concluded happiness dips in mid-life.

That method is flawed,

Galambos says. We don't know how today's teenagers will feel in their 40s. Asking today's 40-year-olds won't get us closer to the answer. And one-off studies often reflect ups and downs, not trends. Immediate circumstances (work stress, kids-stress, etc.), at the time a person is answering a survey can throw off the results.

So why does life look up as we get older? Stability. Being young is stressful and uncertain. Gainful employment tends to make people happier, and that comes with time, Galambos said. The same is true of being married, so it's not surprising that younger adults — who have left the nest, but have yet to form their own families — tend to be unhappy. As we age, we get better at regulating our emotions, the study says. In layman's terms, we wise up.

But the mid-life crisis thing seems to be baloney. "There are crises across the lifespan.

Some of them happen in mid-life," Galambos said, but "People really believe in the mid-life crisis. People count on one." And that's a problem, because middle-aged people may assume the inevitable crisis has hit when what's really going on is a mental health issue.

Bottom line: Most of the people studied became happier over time. And that's a nice thought. Flailing Millennials can look forward to settling down. Middle-aged folks can stop waking up every morning and wondering if the time has yet arrived to crack up. And if you're elderly, there's more good news: The literature pretty clearly shows we continue to get happier as we age. Perhaps you could devote part of your twilight years to helping the rest of us calm down.

Genna Buck is a science writer and a section editor at Metro. Follow her on Twitter @genna_buck.

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Acting tough under pressure

BENGHAZI

13 Hours' Pablo Schreiber on working with Michael Bay

Richard Crouse

For Metro Canada



Making a war movie is hard work, with long hours and tough conditions. According to 13 Hours: The Secret Soldiers of Benghazi star Pablo Schreiber, making a war movie with Michael Bay is extra difficult.

"Everyone who has worked with Michael Bay has told me the set can be a challenging place to work," he says of the Transformers director. "I got all these stories to prepare but ultimately nothing anybody says can prepare you for that experience. He works faster than any director working. We do about 75 set-ups a day, which is massive especially when each of them is like its own action sequence. It's an insane amount of work. He demands a lot from you. It's very necessary that you come prepared, that you are ready to perform any piece of the movie at any given time."

The Canadian born actor and winner of the We Love to Hate You Award at the 2014 Young Hollywood Awards for his work as George "Pornstache" Mendez on Orange Is the New Black, says Bay took him by surprise during the 2015 shoot in Malta.

"There's a scene at the end



John Krasinski and Pablo Schreiber star in Michael Bay's 13 Hours: The Secret Soldiers of Benghazi. CHRISTIAN BLACK/HANDOUT

where a convoy is rolling in and we don't know if they are friendly or bad," he says, "and it is one of the emotional peaks of the movie. For me it was a scene I had checked off as an actor as one I had to be ready and prepared for. Then he shot it a week before we were sup-

posed to shoot it. I had about five minutes to prepare. He said, 'Let's go on the roof and get that last sequence.' He started setting up cranes. To be ready at any moment for whatever he's going to throw at you is very important. As actors, all six of us ended leaving there feeling

like if we had gotten through that experience we could deal with anything."

When I ask if the chaotic set conditions were Bay's way of not-so-subtly exposing his actors to the same kind of unpredictable situations their characters were dealing with, he laughed.

"I'm not sure how much forethought was put into that vibe, but it was definitely effective and it works. As actors we were constantly disoriented and didn't quite know where we were and didn't know where we were going to be on any given day."

Schreiber plays Kris "Tanto"

MOVIE RATINGS by Richard Crouse

13 Hours: The Secret Soldiers of Benghazi ★★★

Ride Along 2 ★★★

Norm of the North ★

HOW RATING WORKS

SEE IT	★★★★
WORTHWHILE	★★★
UP TO YOU	★★
SKIP IT	★

Paronto, a former U.S. Army Ranger who was one of six CIA security contractors working in Benghazi, Libya on September 11, 2012, when well-armed Libyan militants — using weapons pilfered from former Prime Minister Muammar Gaddafi's abandoned arsenals — invaded the American embassy. Their attempt to rescue ambassador J. Christopher Stevens and Foreign Service Information officer Sean Smith led to a harrowing thirteen-hour battle.

The 37-year-old actor met Tanto and says he felt a great responsibility in playing a real person who was on set and would eventually see the film but adds that director Bay tried to keep show the humanity of the story's heroes.

"Michael Bay made this movie and he normally make these big extravaganzas but this is not a superhero movie," he says. "This is a movie about very, very real human beings who behaved extraordinarily under the most difficult circumstances."

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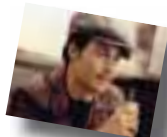
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5 WAYS THE MOB RULED THE '90S

Mob movies were everywhere in the 1990s. Throughout the decade, the genre went deeper and darker, with unforgettable characters and a believably ruthless underworld. Here are five reasons why '90s mob movies bury the rest:

1. Real low-lives. Forget the overcooked buffet of Italian mob-boss movies from the '70s. The best gangster films of the '90s were fresh, chilling and based on real people. Donnie Brasco (1997) is based on the true story of an FBI agent who infiltrates a crime family from the ground up. In GoodFellas (1990), Ray Liotta plays the real-life Henry Hill, a street-smart kid who rises up the ranks before ratting on his mob family and disappearing into witness protection. No meeting of the five families here.



2. Joe Pesci. Who knew that a walking grenade could be so hilarious? With his characters — from Tommy DeVito in GoodFellas to Nicky Santoro in Casino — the pint-size Pesci keeps his friends, enemies and viewers on edge (and in stitches). No one is more dangerous. Or more funny.



3. Priceless lines. Movie dialogue in the '90s was an art, especially in gangster films. Some of these quotes were pearls of mobster wisdom, others are lines we still say today. Here's a snippet:

"Stuff that was stolen always tasted better than anything bought."

— Henry Hill (Ray Liotta), GoodFellas (1990)

"Fuhgetaboutit."

— Lefty Ruggiero (Al Pacino), Donnie Brasco (1997)

"Running a casino is like robbing a bank with no cops around."

— Ace Rothstein (Robert DeNiro), Casino (1995)

"I'm funny how? Like a clown? I amuse you?"

— Tommy DeVito (Joe Pesci), GoodFellas

4. The return of Al Pacino. He broke out in the 1970s as Michael Corleone in The Godfather. But after playing just one gangster in the '80s (albeit in Scarface), he crushes the '90s with an expanded repertoire, showing that he could convincingly play any level of mobster — even the famously over-trusting 'mutt' in Donnie Brasco.



5. Martin Scorsese's realism. Brimming with real-life gangster stories from his hometown of New York City, Scorsese deep-sixed his competition with one brutally entertaining movie after another. "When I saw it on the streets, I said that's how it should be on film," he said of his 1990 classic GoodFellas. Without Scorsese, there's no Quentin Tarantino or Guy Ritchie.

Feeling like a gangster? Watch these mob masterpieces, and other '90s classics, on the Hollywood Suite 90s Movies channel. Hollywood Suite takes you back to the '70s, '80s, '90s and 2000s with hundreds of movies on 4 HDTV Channels, Hollywood Suite On Demand and the Hollywood Suite GO app. Subscribe today and get 50% off the regular price of \$6 or less per month*. Visit hollywoodsuite.ca.

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HOLLYWOODSUITE



Ice Cube on movies, music

RIDE ALONG 2

Rapper has new comedy out, Coachella gig coming up

Matt Prigge
Metro | New York



Ice Cube doesn't storm the stage of Coachella until April, but he already has a game plan. "I'm looking forward to getting out there and giving them a history lesson about Ice Cube, from N.W.A. to the present," says the 46-year-old rapper-actor-filmmaker. "I'm going to put together a show that touches on everything."

The other thing on his desert agenda: "I really want to see Guns N' Roses," he says.

But right now he has other business to attend to. He reunites with Kevin Hart for Ride Along 2, the sequel to the 2013 hit. It follows Straight Outta Compton, another blockbuster that told the story of N.W.A. We talked to him about making music and movies.

Are you a big GN'R fan?

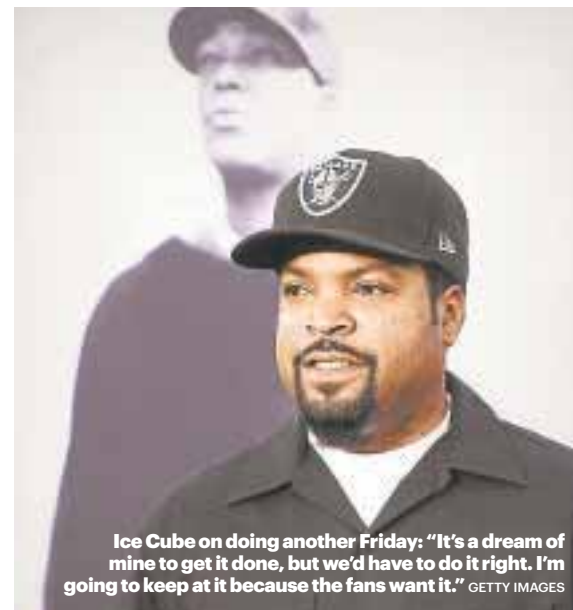
I've loved a lot of their tracks. Far as "big fan," I don't know. I was so involved with my music [back then]. I didn't really want to be a fan of nobody at that time, know what I mean? [Laughs]

Do you have much time for music these days, with all the films you're making?

I haven't had a lot of time lately. Working on Straight Outta Compton took a lot of time and effort. I had movies booked together, so it was just movie to movie to movie. But I am going to go in to the studio with Common and do a song for the Barbershop 3 soundtrack.

Speaking of sequels, you've spoken about how you always want to make sure a sequel is fresh if you do it. What convinced you to do a second Ride Along?

People just want to see us again. A lot of these buddy cop movies are hit and miss. When you hit, you really owe it to the audience to give them something new and fresh with the same team. To me, it's really what you're in show business for: to give the



Ice Cube on doing another Friday: "It's a dream of mine to get it done, but we'd have to do it right. I'm going to keep at it because the fans want it." GETTY IMAGES

audience what they want, not necessarily what you want to give them all the time.

You started your film career in dramas. Do you want to return to them now?

I would love to. Ever since I

got into movies I've wanted to do good ones. I don't really trip over what genre they are. Comedies snowballed in my career, so I ended up doing more of those. Which is fine. But of course I have dramatic characters I want to play.

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OSCARS

Canucks unapologetic about nods

Montreal producer Pierre Even had a snappy response whenever anyone predicted he would see Academy Award nominations today for the film Brooklyn. "Never say that!" Even would say. "Nothing's for sure!"

But Even and Marie-Claude Poulin, co-producers on the film, were celebrating Oscar nominations Thursday morning for best picture, best actress (Saoirse Ronan), and best adapted screenplay (Nick Hornby).

Also in the running for best picture is Room, a Canada-Ireland co-production shot largely in Toronto and based on Emma Donoghue's novel of the same name. Brooklyn is a Canada-U.K.-Ireland co-production, in which Montreal stood in for Brooklyn during shooting.

"Best picture is something else," a clearly-excited Even said in a phone interview after watching a live stream of the Oscar nominations this morning. "I guess it means that people would return our phone calls now — I'm joking."

Even said the Oscar nominations show that Canadian crews can perform at the top levels of the movie industry. "I'm very proud," Even said.



Canadian connections: Montreal stood in for Brooklyn; The Weeknd, Emma Donoghue and Rachel McAdams are all nominated.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE/GETTY IMAGES

Donoghue was clearly elated by her nomination in the best adapted screenplay category, tweeting: "4 #OscarNoms for #RoomtheMovie, Best Picture, Best Director, Best Lead Actress, Best Adapted Screenplay, hard to type while shaking."

"It's just wonderful to see a fairly low-budget film, made mostly with state money,

can do so well," said Donoghue from Nice, France.

The film won the People's Choice Award at the Toronto International Film Festival, where it began generating awards buzz.

Other Canadians named during the ceremony in Beverly Hills, Calif. included Rachel McAdams, who was nominated for best supporting actress in Spotlight.

The Weeknd was nominated for best original song for Earned It from the film Fifty Shades of Grey, along with fellow Canadians Ahmad Balshe, Jason (Daheala) Quenneville and Stephan Moccio.

Several other Canadians were nominated for their work on The Revenant, which picked up a leading 12 nominations. They include: set decorator Hamish Purdy of Vancouver, who received a production design nomination, Chris Duesterdiek for sound mixing and Cameron Waldbauer for visual effects.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Real Rob is the man behind the fur

INTERVIEW

Rob Schneider lends his voice to an animated bear on a quest

Matt Prigge
Metro | New York



In his early standup days, before his stint on Saturday Night Live, Rob Schneider was known for the diversity of his voices. Occasionally he gets to use that skill. No stranger to voiceover work in animation, Schneider voices the lead in *Norm of the North*: A polar bear trying to save the Arctic from greedy human developers. This family film comes soon after the debut of *Real Rob*, his fairly R-rated Netflix show about a fictionalized version of himself and his family.

What appeals to you about doing animated voiceover?

I remember sitting in the audience watching *Aladdin*. I'm from San Francisco and I was a comedian at the same time Robin Williams was a big star. I'd seen all the characters he'd done and saw how they managed to animate that. They were able to capture in cartoon what that guy was capable of doing. In the back of my mind I hoped for the chance to do that.

Plus, it seems less stressful than acting in person.

You can wear sweats to work for a week. No one gives a s—. You don't have to put on makeup. It's not like a regular movie. You can become fat — especially if you're playing a polar bear.

You have a three-year-old daughter. Does that inform



Rob Schneider, pictured inset, provides the voice to Norm the polar bear in the new film *Norm of the North*. HANDOUT

some of the work you take?

I'd like to be able to sit with her and watch one of my movies. There's a couple animated films I did — I call it "emergency trauma surgery animation." That's where they bring you in and it's already animated, and you have to squeeze jokes in. Or it's in another language. A friend brought me into some films because he knows I can do a lot of voices. So I would do nine different voices for a movie called *The Reef*, which was a blatant ripoff of *Finding Nemo*. You make it as good as you can, but it's not like this movie, where you start from scratch and really build something. I showed my daughter *The Reef 2* and after 10 minutes she got up and walked out.

You also have *Real Rob*, which, like *Rob*, follows around a version of you.

What made you want to return to a fictionalized version of yourself?

I wanted to do something that was entertaining and funny and kind of my version of *Fawlty Towers*. Because where else is entertainment going to go? It has to be more personal. Reality TV is a bore. And it's not real; they sketch it out. So you take an exaggerated version of yourself and the audiences guess how much is real and how much isn't.

You also financed it yourself and made and then sold it to Netflix. It's amazing there are avenues like that open to performers.

I did a season of *Rob* for CBS, and they decided not to pick it up. And we averaged 11 million viewers. I went to Netflix and said that we'd averaged 11 million viewers and I could bring those over

to them. Netflix is twice as big as CBS. CBS is a tiny company compared to Netflix. Netflix has 70 million viewers who pay 10 bucks every month. That's \$700 million dollars coming in. They don't have to worry about advertising; they just want to keep their customers happy.

The entertainment world is in such a strange period of flux at the moment. Do you find you have to hustle more nowadays?

You always have to hustle. And you have to make something good. I never had a doubt in my mind we were going to wind up somewhere, because it's good. We wanted to make something that was the highest quality possible. No one could have done what I did. I'm the only actor, only comedian ever who's produced, written, edited, financed an

entire season. I edited it for nine months. Nobody could do that. I don't know if anyone would want to do that. With companies like Netflix, the door's open to produce your own stuff. I hope other people follow my lead, because you get complete artistic freedom. That's what you want as an artist.

Token Saturday Night Live question: You were there during Steven Seagal's episode. Some have nominated him as the worst-ever host.

I find that to be an exaggeration. I worked with him. He's a bit of a loon — just a little bit. I didn't think he was the worst. I thought there were other ones who were worse than him, to be honest. I don't remember seeing David Spade in the writers room for an extended time, the whole time I was there. He would do his stuff. I was

in the writers room. I think people are looking for a safe target. That's mean-spirited and I don't think David Spade had direct dealings with Steven Seagal. I'm going to call him out on that and say bulls—, David, you didn't have direct experience with him, you weren't around.

I take it you don't want to name the hosts you found worse than Seagal.

No, because I don't want to dump on people. It wasn't like Steven Seagal is a comedian. Who's expecting that guy to come in and be hilarious? So what are these a—holes complaining about? I mean it: What are these a—holes complaining about? To me it's revisionist thinking. No one was expecting Steven Seagal to be this amazing host anyway. He's a f—ing karate guy who got a break. What do you expect?



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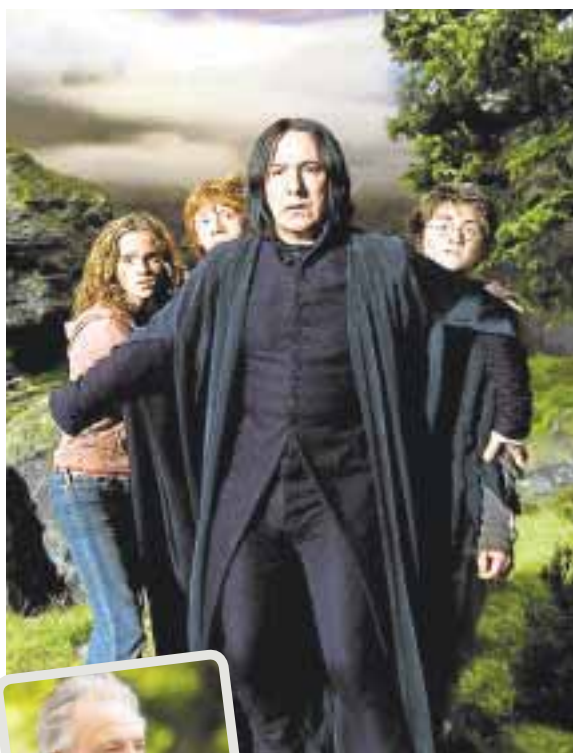
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Rickman is perhaps best known for his role as Professor Snape in Harry Potter (above). The British actor has died following a battle with cancer. HANDOUT; THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Goodbye our dear villain

OBITUARY

Alan Rickman, of Harry Potter and Die Hard, dies at age 69

British actor Alan Rickman, a classically-trained stage star and sensual screen villain in the Harry Potter saga and other films, has died. He was 69.

Rickman's family said Thursday that the actor had died after a battle with cancer.

Trained at the prestigious Royal Academy of Dramatic Art, Rickman was often cast as the bad guy; with his rich, languid voice he could invest evil with wicked, irresistible relish.

His breakout role was as scheming French aristocrat the Vicomte de Valmont in an acclaimed 1985 Royal Shakespeare Company production of Christopher Hampton's *Les Liaisons Dangereuses*.

Film roles included the psychopathic villain Hans Gruber in *Die Hard* in 1988; a deceased lover who consoles his bereaved partner in 1990's *Truly Madly Deeply*; the wicked Sheriff of Nottingham in *Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves* in

1991; and a wayward husband in 2003 romantic comedy *Love Actually*.

Millions know him from the Potter films, in which he played the portions and defence against the dark arts teacher Severus Snape, who was either a nemesis or an ally — possibly both — to the titular teenage wizard.

He appeared frequently on-stage, earning Tony Award nominations for *Les Liaisons Dangereuses* in 1987 and Noel Coward's *Private Lives* in 2002.

Rickman was also a filmmaker, directing and co-starring opposite Kate Winslet in 2014 costume drama *A Little Chaos*.

Frequently charming in person, Rickman was, by his own account, uncompromising as an actor. During the filming of *Harry Potter*, he maintained Snape's air of haughty disdain even off-camera.

"The animal in me takes over," Rickman said in 2011 when he appeared on Broadway in Theresa Rebeck's play *Seminar*. "You're as polite as possible, but it's not always possible."

Rickman is survived by his partner of 50 years, Rima Horton, whom he married recently. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

OBITUARY

Dion's husband Angélil dies at age 73

René Angélil, the entertainment maestro who guided Céline Dion to superstardom and then married her, has died, according to Francine Chaloult, a spokeswoman for Dion. He was 73.

Chaloult said Angélil died Thursday morning at his home in Las Vegas. He had been battling a recurrence of throat cancer.

While Dion and Angélil's entourage insisted he was doing well, Angélil stepped back from the day-to-day management of

his megastar wife's career in June 2014. He turned it over to longtime friend Aldo Giampaolo, a noted impresario himself in Quebec, but remained involved in key decisions.

Dion and Angélil, who were 26 years apart in age, married in an elaborate ceremony in 1994 at Notre Dame Basilica in Montreal that drew throngs. Angélil and Dion have always been one of entertainment's power couples, owning lavish homes in

the United States and Canada but the shrewd entertainment czar sprang from more humble roots.

Angélil was born in Montreal on Jan. 16, 1942, to a Syrian father and a Quebecois mother. He grew up in the city's north-end Villeray district where he showed signs of his future career as he put on little shows for his neighbours. In 1981 he received an audio tape in the mail from Dion's mother, who encouraged him to "listen to it carefully. It's my

12-year-old daughter."

Struck by the voice of the young woman, Angélil quickly took her under his wing. He reportedly mortgaged his home to finance her first album. World tours and megastardom followed.

Dion and Angélil have three children — René-Charles, who was born in 2001 and twins Nelson and Eddy, who arrived in 2010. Angélil also had three children from his previous two marriages. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Ethan Ribeiro & Paula Potosky, photo by Robert Tinker

Oscar stuns with lack of diversity

NOMINEES

No actors of colour get nods in major categories

As the dust begins to settle after the 2016 announcement, many fans' early-morning enthusiasm quickly turned to disappointment after not a single black actor was nominated. Actors of colour did not make it to the 20 award slots available in the best actor, best actress, best supporting actor and best supporting actress categories.

For the second year in a row, fans used the #OscarsSoWhite hashtag to voice their frustrations. "And the #Oscar goes to... somebody white. #OscarNoms," Twitter user Jamar Hooks wrote.

"The #Oscars this year looking a lot like a Trump rally. All White," Michael Skolnik commented.

Darnell Hunt is a sociology professor at the University of California, Los Angeles, and the director of the Ralph J. Bunche Center for African American Studies, which releases a Hollywood Diversity Report annually. He said he was hardly surprised that actors of colour were left out of the Oscar nominations. The snubs, he said, reflect a lack of diversity within the Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences, which votes for the awards.

"Unfortunately, the nominations kind of reflect the state of the industry as it relates to diversity. We're talking about an Academy that's 93 per cent white, 76 per cent male, and average age 63," Hunt told Torstar News Service in a telephone interview Thursday.

This year's Oscars host is



Many hope host Chris Rock takes the Academy to task for lack of diversity among nominees. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE/GETTY IMAGES

Chris Rock, who has regularly brought issues of racism and discrimination into his comedy. Rock did not comment on the #OscarsSoWhite criticism Thursday. Many said they hoped Rock would use his opening monologue to hold the Academy accountable.

Fans on social media wanted Idris Elba to be nominated for his role as an African warlord in *Beasts of No Nation*, for which he received BAF-TA, SAG-AFTRA and Golden Globe nods.

Many were also upset at snubs of Will Smith for his part in *Concussion* and Mi-

chael B. Jordan, who starred in *Creed*, and that Puerto Rico-born Benicio Del Toro was also left out for his part in *Sicario*.

While NWA biopic *Straight Outta Compton* was nominated for best original screenplay — after being left out of the Golden Globes nominations — many on social media were quick to point out that the nominated screenwriters were actually white.

Hunt said awards like the Oscars set the standards for what the industry views as great films, and that in turn shapes "future decisions that

are made about what projects will be green-lit, with what budgets, (and) with what stars.

"We're reproducing the same old exclusionary industry by only recognizing certain types of projects and that's a huge problem," he said.

A study last year at the University of Southern California found that film characters are still overwhelmingly white. Of the top 100 films in 2014, 73.1 per cent of characters were white.

Black characters accounted for only 12.5 per cent of the ones on screen, compared to

only 5.3 per cent for Asian and 4.9 per cent Hispanic characters.

"The nominees perpetuate what our culture and what the members of the academy value and sadly it is not women's visions nor people of colour," Melissa Silverstein, who pushes for gender equity in Hollywood, commented on Twitter about the Oscar nominations.

"As a creative, film lover and man of colour, they make it so hard to see our work as valued sometimes. #Oscars #OscarsSoWhite," Larry McAllister II added.

Hunt said the industry needs to be restructured to better reflect the diversity of U.S. society. That means diversifying membership in the Academy and among studio executives, as well as what roles are being offered to black and other minority actors.

"The high-quality roles need to be diversified so that the machine is not producing an output that pretty much guarantees the snubbing of people of colour every year, which is what we're seeing right now," he said.

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THE TV DINNER JESSICA ALLEN



To properly annoy one's friends at an Oscar-viewing party, one needs to have a command of the slew of less consequential awards

During the run-up to Oscars (T-minus 44 days), I often feel like someone who did track in high school and suddenly finds themselves, 25 years later, about to run a marathon.

There's so much to watch, to get invested in, including heady dramas like *Carol*, *Room* and *Spotlight*. But the brain is flabby and unconditioned after several months of binge-watching *Ladies of London* (OMG have you seen this show?).

In order to properly train — and properly annoy one's friends at an Oscar-viewing party — one needs to have a command of the slew of less consequential awards that have already been handed out. *Spotlight* took home top honours at the Gotham Awards, for example, but the New York Film Critics Circle gave that to *Carol*. Meanwhile, Golden Globes went to *The Revenant* and *The Martian* for best drama and comedy respectively. And just to keep things really interesting, the National Board of Review deemed *Mad Max: Fury Road* the best film of 2016. But the Producers Guild Awards, on Jan. 23, are usually considered more useful in predicting what film will take home the 13-and-a-half-inch-tall Big One. And they didn't even nominate *Room*, which the Academy did on Thursday, but they did include *Sicario*, *Straight Outta Compton*, and *Ex Machina*, which the Academy didn't. Both shut out *Carol*.

Enough ink gets spilled

THE GOLDEN GLOBE BOY:
Leonardo DiCaprio



THE MEAL:
Pasta and Leek Bake



in the warm-up that you'll be huffing and puffing come Feb. 28. Films take out ads in newspapers begging to be considered. Critics make predictions, which often include several titles you've never even heard of. For some, like *The Hollywood Reporter's* Scott Feinberg, Oscar watch is a full-time job, literally. For me, it just means I can't re-watch *Step Brothers*, written and directed by Adam McKay, because I feel like it. I should be watching his Oscar-nominated film *The Big Short*.

Or can I? Simon recently interrupted our Sunday morning quiet time, where we divide up the New York Times and sit with silence — and coffee — to inform me that A.O. Scott considers *Step Brothers* to be “a bona fide masterpiece.”

We nodded, smug in the knowledge that we share a minority opinion with the paper's chief film critic. I bet we watch the comedy three times a year and always, without protest from either party, stop and rewind to a

particularly magical bit of movie-making: “Do you like guacamole?” John C. Reilly asks. “Yes!” asserts Will Ferrell, just before Reilly crushes him after he leaps onto the top bunk of the beds they've constructed together.

And much like Oscar buzz isn't something you'd expect from a film by the same guy who wrote and directed *Anchorman*, I made something completely new for dinner — and from a new cookbook to boot: the pasta and leek bake from *Simply Nigella*. It required making a roux, which seems as easy as Meryl Streep doing an accent, but I can count on one hand the number of times I've prepared it successfully. That includes this attempt, which we enjoyed seconds of while pausing *Step Brothers* on all our favourite parts.

Dinner was a real winner, which no one could've predicted.

Jessica Allen is the digital correspondent on CTV's *The Social*.

FILM BRIEF

Mullally lands role in new Franco, Cranston film

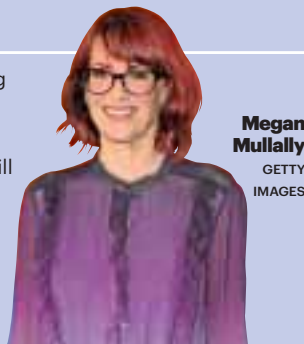
Megan Mullally is set to star opposite James Franco and Bryan Cranston in the upcoming movie *Why Him*.

The film tells the story of a Midwestern father, Ned (played by Cranston), who discovers that his college student daughter is dating an Internet billionaire

(played by Franco), leading to competition between the two.

Mullally, known for her roles as Karen Walker in *Will & Grace* and as Bev in *30 Rock*, will play the part of Ned's wife Barb in the Fox comedy, *Deadline* reports.

Production on the movie is slated to begin in February this year. AFP



Megan Mullally
GETTY IMAGES

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comedy metr

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Feel good with a Blue Monday movie

PLEASURE SCENE

Hit up a cinema on the cheap and beat the January blahs

Richard Crouse
For Metro Canada



Feeling down? You're not alone.

Years ago Cliff Arnall, a tutor at the Centre for Lifelong Learning at Cardiff University, declared January to be the most depressing month of the year. "Following the initial thrill of New Year's celebrations and changing over a new leaf," Arnall said, "reality starts to sink in." His study cited weather, debt, time elapsed since Christmas, average hours of daylight and unsuccessful New Year's resolutions as the reasons for the slump and named the third Monday of the month Blue Monday, the single most depressing day of the year.

Whether Arnall's "sadness algorithm" passes scientific muster remains to be seen but

there's no denying January can be dispiriting. This year Cineplex is offering up a way to beat the January blahs — cheap movies. On Jan. 18 Scene card members can redeem just 500 points to see any movie at Cineplex, from general admission auditoriums all the way up to the fancy-dancy VIP Cinemas.

45%

In a recent survey Cineplex discovered 45 per cent of Canadians say they typically feel rested after watching a movie while 38 per cent say they feel "less stressed, like I took a mini vacation."

Marston-Milbauer Eminent Scholar Emeritus at the University of Florida Dr. Norman Holland is an expert in psychoanalytic criticism and cognitive poetics, which in layman's terms means he has made a study of how our brains translate activities like going to the cinema into pleasure.



Richard Gere and Julia Roberts in *Pretty Woman*. CONTRIBUTED

FEEL-GOOD FLICKS
Canada's top two comfort movies are *Mrs. Doubtfire* and *Pretty Woman*

"It's restful, no question," he says.

"The parts of your brain that turn off are the parts that plan action because you're not going to act on what you see on the screen in front of you.

You turn off the systems that plan, that look ahead that evaluate futures. That explains the phenomenon of the willing suspension of disbelief. You accept the most improbable things, like *Stars Wars* or *Spider-Man*. At the same time the lower centres of your brain are generating emotions like mad in response to what you're seeing. This is the peculiar phenomenon that you can feel and care about these people on the screen while at the same time knowing they are nothing but a fiction."

The Cineplex survey indicates that when feeling blue 78 per cent of Canadians look to funny movies to cheer them up. "We don't want Ingmar Bergman on Blue Monday," says Holland. "The idea is to do something for yourself. Do something that pleases you."

Overall, according to Cineplex, Canada's top two com-

fort movies are the Robin Williams comedy *Mrs. Doubtfire* and *Pretty Woman* with Julia Roberts and Richard Gere. Men chose the uplifting prison break movie *The Shawshank Redemption* as their favourite feel good flick.

Holland isn't surprised the top movies are old favourites featuring big stars. "Familiar characters, familiar faces," he says. "They're people we've had good experiences with before and can expect [to have] good experiences with again."

So what would the good doctor go see on Blue Monday? "8 1/2 by Fellini," he says. It's a fanciful movie that engages both the emotional and intellectual sides of the brain. "I love Fellini."



The idea is to do something for yourself. Do something that pleases you.

Psychoanalytic expert
Dr. Norman Holland

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Men's

Friday, Jan. 15, 7:30pm vs Regina
Saturday, Jan. 16, 3:30pm vs Regina



For more info visit
Wesmen.ca



Rock mockumentary found audience online

SVENGALI

Web shorts from YouTube now a feature-length film

Steve Gow
For Metro Canada



Jonny Owen has a simple slice of advice for those dreaming of someday making a big movie.

"If you've got an idea, shoot it," said the English Internet star-turned big-screen success from London recently. "For a long time, you just had scripts or ideas on a page and its difficult to visualize anything (but) when you shoot something, its something tangible you can show to people."

That was certainly what triggered Owen's series of funny web shorts into the feature length comedy Svengali (now available on VOD). After all, the satirical story of a postman set on managing a musical act to the top of the irrational rock and roll industry gained

a cult following not by traditional means — but through online show-and-tell.

"The internet was a game-changer," explained Owen, who first began uploading his musical spoofs in 2008. "When I put something on YouTube at that time, it would get 30,000 views in a month whereas on the small film festival circuit before that, I'd be walking around playing to 200-300 people at a time."

Since those days, the Internet has proven its worth — giving rise to many popular web series and producing a wealth of online celebrities. Although Owen insists his only goal was to simply find an audience, he also admits that early type of indie filmmaking made him a more creative person.

"It was illegal, what I was doing," laughed Owen, explaining it's next to impossible to shoot in London for underfunded filmmakers. "In the street, you'd kind of set up quickly, shoot and run off. That certainly makes you daring. I suppose it's a bit like walking across a tightrope and not looking down."



Much of Svengali was shot illegally on the streets of London says director Jonny Owen. HANDOUT

However, Owen is quick to point out there is another powerful factor when attempting to get your small project noticed in the entertainment industry — hire someone famous.

In Svengali's case, it came in the form of actor Martin Freeman.

"Martin had just starred in The Hobbit movies and, at the time, that franchise was probably the biggest in the world," said Owen. "It was his involvement that really got us the green light for funding so he was essential really."

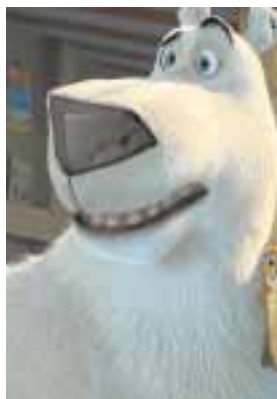
INSPIRATION

Pioneering film offered filmmaker inspiration

"Spinal Tap is still the greatest mockumentary ever," admitted Owen.

"I remember (music mogul) Alan Magee said rock and roll is the only industry in the world where bad behaviour is actively encouraged. I thought there's so much comedy in that."

Now playing



ACTION/COMEDY

Norm of the North

Director: Trevor Wall
Starring: Rob Schneider, Heather Graham

A polar bear of many words, Norm's greatest gripe is simple: there is no room for tourists in the Arctic. But when a maniacal developer threatens to build luxury condos in his own backyard, Norm heads to New York City to stop it.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: NOT YET REVIEWED
Audience: +64%



ACTION & ADVENTURE

13 Hours: The Secret Soldiers of Benghazi

Director: J.J. Abrams
Starring: John Krasinski, Pablo Schreiber

The gripping true story of six elite ex-military operators assigned to protect the CIA who fought back against overwhelming odds when terrorists attacked a U.S. diplomatic compound on September 11, 2012.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: NOT YET REVIEWED
Audience: +94%



ACTION & ADVENTURE

Star Wars: The Force Awakens

Director: J.J. Abrams
Starring: Harrison Ford, Daisy Ridley

In this continuation of the Star Wars saga, balance returns to the Force as the First Order, emerging from the ashes of the Empire, clashes with the Resistance, which includes newcomers and heroes from the former Rebel Alliance.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: 94%
Audience: +99%

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Praising Arizona

SCOTTSDALE

Active living is easy when the sun is shining

Vawn Himmelsbach
For Metro Canada

Scottsdale, Ariz., isn't just for your grandparents — it's come into its own as a top adventure destination. In a single day, you can challenge your quads on a double-black-diamond hike, learn how to rope a calf at a dude ranch and sample your way along the local ale trail.

It still has a cowboy vibe (it was dubbed the West's most Western town in the 1950s), but this former farming community has transformed itself into a base for outdoor adventure, along with a burgeoning culinary and craft beer scene.

Indeed, Scottsdale was named America's No. 2 foodie city in 2014 by Livability.com, thanks to its numerous farmers' markets and award-winning chefs — not to mention nearly 800 restaurants to choose from (don't miss dinner at FnB, where James Beard-nominated chef Charleen Badman whips up elevated vegetable creations, or an unbuckle-your-belt feast at Bryan's Black Mountain Barbecue with some of the best beef brisket in town).

Here's how to make the most of a trip to Scottsdale this winter:

Hiking, biking and climbing
The city's most prominent landmark is Camelback Mountain, shaped like a camel lying down.

With its sheer red cliffs, this 75.8-acre park is a favourite hiking and climbing spot for locals — its two summit trails are double-black-diamond hikes (in other words, not for beginners). It's worth waking up early and starting in the dark — you'll be rewarded with 360-degree views at the summit while you watch the sun rise over the Sonoran Desert.

The many parks and preserves in the area are ideal for hiking, mountain biking and rock climbing, particularly in the winter with temperatures averaging around 21 degrees C.

Craft beer

America's craft beer scene often brings Portland to mind, but Arizona is abuzz with microbreweries — and it's easy to experience what's on tap by walking, biking or taking the free trolley on Scottsdale's downtown ale trail. Don't miss Craft 64, with a rotating selection of 30 Arizona craft beers on tap such as the popular Four Peaks Kilt Lifter. And stop by Sip Coffee & Beer with 19 rotating craft beers on draft and coffee beans provided by local roaster Cartel Coffee



Scottsdale offers challenges, like a day at a dude ranch and a hike up Camelback Mountain. Above: learning about desert flora is extra fun when you're in a pink jeep. ALL PHOTOS VAWN HIMMELSBACH/FOR METRO

Lab. Cartel also brews its own beers, including Coffee Brown, a nut-brown ale made with Cartel coffee beans.

Cowboy College

Scottsdale is home to luxury spas and high-end shopping, but here you can find a slice of the real west. So don't miss a chance to discover your inner cowboy and rope a calf (well, a roping dummy, anyway). The Four Seasons Resort Scottsdale at Troon North offers a Cowboy for a Day package at Arizona

Cowboy College, where you'll learn the ropes of horse handling and cattle driving — no easy-peasy trail rides and resort-style cookouts here.

The desert

In Scottsdale, you're always a stone's throw from a Saguaro cactus. But this desert is one of the most bio-diverse on the planet.

Learn more about it at the Desert Botanical Garden, a living museum that features 50,000 desert plants from around the

world, with trailside exhibits and art exhibitions. Or, go off-road and get muddy on a Cactus Canyon Adventure with Pink Adventure Tour (yep, in pink jeeps), where learning about flora and fauna is actually fun.

Where to stay

Sanctuary on Camelback Mountain is a luxurious retreat featuring newly renovated ultra-chic mountainside casitas.

Its renowned Sanctuary Spa



LOONIE LOVE

The Loonie Love in Scottsdale campaign offers perks from partners keen on welcoming their neighbours from the north as the Canadian dollar drops in value.

features an Asian-inspired menu of services; plus, there's yoga, pilates and spinning, along with five tennis courts and an outdoor lap pool. Celebrity chef Beau MacMillan whips up farm-fresh American fare at elements, its fine dining restaurant.

Or, retreat to the AAA Five Diamond Four Seasons Resort Scottsdale at Troon North, with spacious casitas that open onto stunning desert scenery in the cooling foothills of Pinnacle Peak — plus, there's an award-winning spa and possibly the best craft cocktails in town.

5 SAN FRAN CLASSICS TO UP YOUR FOOD GAME

San Francisco is a city that is serious about its food, and with the Super Bowl heading to nearby Santa Clara, the hungry hordes hankering for a taste of the local food scene won't be disappointed. Here's a guide to five foods and drinks San Francisco is famous for and where to find them. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**



1 Crab

You can pick up a traditional crab cocktail at one of the many vendors lining **Fisherman's Wharf**. For a different take, try it roasted and served with garlic noodles at **Thanh Long** (4101 Judah St.). Like your crab crispy? Get it shelled, battered and deep-fried at the **R & G Lounge** in Chinatown (631 Kearny St.).



2 Beer

Anchor Brewing has a history that goes all the way back to 1849, when German brewer Gottlieb Brekle arrived with his family. You can get a first-person look at the brewery via tours available most days except holidays. The tours cost \$15 per person, take about 90 minutes and conclude with a tasting. Reservations are required; you can make them here: anchorbrewing.com/brewery/tours.



3 Coffee

This is a fully caffeinated city with coffee shops on just about every block. Try **Ritual**, a pioneer in the craft caffeine movement. The flagship location is 1026 Valencia St. in the Mission District. **Blue Bottle**, which began across the bay in Oakland, has a spot in San Francisco's Ferry Building. And for a little extra kick, try the famous Irish Coffee at the **Buena Vista Cafe** in Fisherman's Wharf (2765 Hyde St.).



4 Oysters

Oysters on the half shell are a longstanding San Francisco tradition. For an elegant take with a great view of the Bay Bridge try **Waterbar** (399 The Embarcadero). Starting Jan. 30 dinner will be accompanied by a free light show with the return of the Bay Lights, a display that flashes nightly on the west span of the bridge. Also on the waterfront, **Hog Island Oyster Bar** in the Ferry Building.



5 Sourdough

The region's tradition of sourdough — bread leavened with a wild yeast starter or "mother" dough — dates back to the Gold Rush. **Boudin Bakery**, established in 1849 has a veritable shrine to sourdough at its Fisherman's Wharf location (160 Jefferson St). It includes a museum and demonstration bakery. Another good place to try this crusty creation is **Tartine Bakery** (600 Guerrero St.).

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Patrick Chan is adding a triple Axel to his long program, cranking up the difficulty in time for the Canadian championships in Halifax

Jets dump Preds in OT

NHL

Winnipeg earns 2 points after giving up 3-goal 3rd-period lead

Blake Wheeler's wrister 51 seconds into overtime helped the Winnipeg Jets avoid a huge comeback bid by the Nashville Predators with a 5-4 victory on Thursday.

Dustin Byfuglien scored twice in regulation for the Jets (20-21-3), while Bryan Little and Nikolaj Ehlers added goals as well. Rookie Connor Hellebuyck stopped 31 shots for the win, making his ninth start in Winnipeg's last 10 games.

Ryan Johansen, Eric Nystrom and James Neal all scored in the third period as Nashville (19-18-7) rallied from a 4-1 deficit. Kevin Fiala opened scoring for the Predators in the first period as Pekka Rinne made 19 saves.

Entering Thursday night, Rinne was 1-8-2 with a 3.29 goals-against average in his last 11 road starts.

Following a feverish finish to regulation that saw nearly two minutes of 3-on-3 hockey, Neal's equalizer with 13.5 seconds remaining in the third sent Nashville and Winnipeg to another round of 3-on-3 in overtime.

The Jets held a 4-1 lead in the third after rookie Ehlers scored his eighth goal on the year, but Nashville responded with goals less than three minutes apart midway through the period as recent addition Johansen and



The Jets' Adam Lowry levels James Neal of the Predators at MTS Centre on Thursday night. JOHN WOODS/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Nystrom scored to make it 4-3 with 8:07 to play.

Byfuglien bookended three second period Winnipeg goals as the Jets put an end to their three-game slide, closing the gap between the two division rivals.

THURSDAY In Winnipeg

5	4
JETS	PREDS

Nashville, now losers of five in a row, finish their four-game road trip pointless, allowing Winnipeg within two points of their quickly loosening hold on the final wild-card spot in the Western Conference at 45 points.

Byfuglien's 10th and 11th of the season are the first goals for the Jets' lone all-star selection since Dec. 18.

Byfuglien left the game in the third period with an undiscovered injury. THE CANADIAN PRESS

NFL PLAYOFFS

Kelce vs. Gronk in battle of top TEs

Travis Kelce has always been competitive, whether it was on the playground as a kid, the Cleveland Heights football field in high school, or inside Nippert Stadium at the University of Cincinnati.

It didn't change when he was drafted by the Kansas City Chiefs, either.

If anything, the tight end became even more competitive, setting a goal to be the best player at his position in the NFL.

And on Saturday, he'll have his biggest platform yet to state his case when the Chiefs visit the New England Patriots in the divisional round of the playoffs.

On the other sideline? Rob Gronkowski, considered to be

“

He's good. He wouldn't be in the playoffs — that team wouldn't be in the playoffs — if he wasn't good.

Patriot Patrick Chung on the Chiefs Travis Kelce

the best tight end in the game.

"I have no control over what that guy does. He has no control over what I do," Kelce said.

"Rob's been an outstanding tight end, needless to say — all the stuff he's been able to do in the league. But we're in a single elimination game. I have no focus or care for what that offence does."

Nor does Gronkowski care what the Kansas City offence does. Both tight ends are focused on beating the opposing defence, not beating each other in catches or yards or touchdowns.

It sure is an interesting game within the game, though.

Gronkowski was the Patriots' leading receiver with 1,176 yards this season, while Kelce was the Chiefs' second-leading receiver with 875. That put both of them in the top four in the AFC among tight ends, with Gronkowski at the peak of the ladder and Kelce just a few rungs below.

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CFL

Roughriders release stars Chick, Dressler

The Saskatchewan Roughriders released veteran stars John Chick and Weston Dressler on Thursday.

Chick, a defensive end, spent six seasons with Saskatchewan and was the CFL's top defensive player in 2009. Dressler, a receiver, was the league's top rookie in 2008 and cracked the 1,000-yard receiving plateau in five of his eight seasons with the Riders.

Chick is ranked fourth in franchise history with 53 sacks.

“

We felt it was necessary in order for us to move forward.

Chris Jones, head coach and GM

Dressler stands third in all-time receiving yards (7,797) and fifth in receiving TDs (50).

THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF



Don't worry. It's just a game.

A letter from a Grade 1 student written to Vikings kicker Blair Walsh, pictured, who missed a playoff-game-winning field goal against the Seahawks last weekend.

NFL

St. Louis fans sue Rams over move

Rams owner Stan Kroenke and others violated Missouri law by lying about their desire to keep the NFL team in St. Louis, according to a lawsuit filed by fans that seeks class-action status and unspecified damages.

The suit was filed Wednesday in St. Louis Circuit Court, one day after NFL owners voted to allow the Rams to relocate to suburban Los Angeles for next season.

The suit alleges that Kroen-



Stan Kroenke
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Louis, violating Missouri's Merchandising Practices Act.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ke and chief operating officer Kevin Demoff made false and misleading statements over the years indicating the team had no intention of leaving St.

RECIPE Deli Quesadillas



PHOTO: MAYA VISNIE

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada



Let's finish off the week easy, shall we? Stop by the deli counter on your way home and pick up some sliced meat and dinner will be halfway made.

Ready in
Prep time: 15 minutes
Serves 2

Ingredients

- 12 to 16 slices of roast turkey or deli turkey
- 2 apples, thinly sliced
- 50g white cheddar cheese, thinly sliced
- 4 whole wheat tortillas
- 2 teaspoon olive oil

Directions

1. Place a skillet over medium low heat and add 1/2 tsp of oil.

2. Place your tortillas in the pan. Arrange your cheese slices across one half of the tortilla. Then layer 1/4 of the apple slices and four slices of meat on top of that.

3. Cook until tortilla is beginning to brown on the outside and the cheese begins to melt. Fold the tortilla in half and flip to warm the other side, about 1 minute. Remove the quesadilla to a clean cutting board. Repeat until you have 4 quesadillas. Slice the quesadillas in triangles and serve with a salad.

If you're using these in a packed lunch. Allow them to cool before storing in an airtight container in the refrigerator. Reheat quesadillas in the morning and then pack in a thermal lunch container.

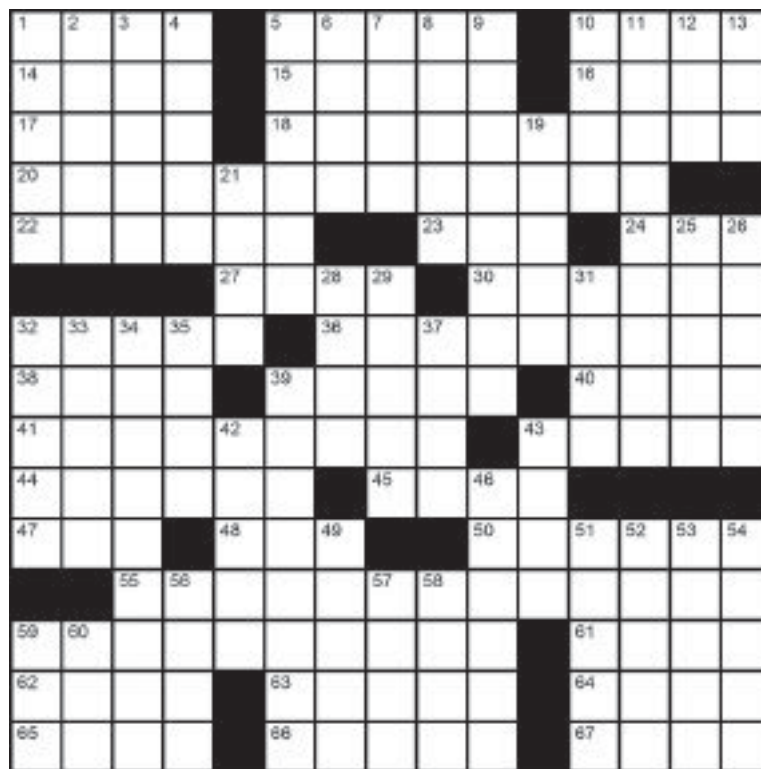
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CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN

ACROSS

1. Ms. Sommer
5. ____ (Three multiple choice options)
10. New Zealand fruit
14. Grinding factory
15. Ms. Palin
16. Phoenix locale [abbr.]
17. Downright nasty
18. Kitchen backsplash choice: 2 wds.
20. Best Actress in a Movie Made for Television or ____ (One of two categories in which Rachel McAdams is a Critics' Choice Awards nominee for this week-end's ceremony)
22. Company's experience-getter
23. Knock
24. 100 [abbr.]
27. American state
30. Casino card game gig
32. Analyze
36. Canadian pairs skaters Sale & Pelletier won 2002 Olympic gold for their performance to what movie theme music?: 2 wds.
38. Faux/artificial, briefly
39. Showbiz legend Ms. Day
40. ____ Scotia
41. Moisturizer variety: 2 wds.
43. Wished
44. Egyptian Myth: Scarab-headed god
45. Medieval labourer
47. "Clumsy" band, briefly



48. Ms. Gardner
50. Prophet
55. The Guess Who song: 2 wds.
59. Big river in New Brunswick
61. Musician Mr. Puente
62. ____ Sound, Ontario

63. Baronial
64. Smelly
65. Ernie's muppet friend
66. Rose parts
67. Network of nerves

DOWN

1. "My Kind of Love"

- singer Ms. Sande
2. "Easy ____": 1972 Uriah Heep tune
3. Austrian painter, Gustav ____ (b.1862 - d.1918)
4. Ms. Kemper of "Bridesmaids" (2011)
5. Acquiesce
6. Telecom speed

- unit
7. Royal symbols
8. More uncooked
9. Acting/guessing party game
10. "____ & Leopold" (2001)
11. It's an 'Eire-ea' of Newfoundland to explore on a scenic

- drive: 2 wds.
12. Mr. Wheaton
13. 'Final' suffix (Settle)
19. "Holy smokes!"
21. Honest
25. Boldness
26. Mythological tree nymph
28. Lotion ingredient
29. Greek Myth: Season goddesses
31. ____ extra cost
32. Canadian actress, Cara ____
33. Menotti opera, ____ and the Night Visitors
34. The 'wrap' of a veggie wrap: 2 wds.
35. Footprint
37. Vitalities
39. Retro outdoor movie-going venues
42. Beach 'hermits'
43. Olympian queen
46. Nick of "The Deep" (1977), and surnamesakes
49. Specialized vocabulary
51. Character in 1997's "Titanic", John Jacob ____ IV
52. Country in a 2010 mining rescue operation
53. Rolling Stones album: "____ Bleed"
54. Wear away
56. Laundry accumulation
57. Toothpaste holder
58. Movie
59. San Francisco's ____ Hill
60. Female sheep

★ IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

♿ Aries March 21 - April 20
With Mercury in retrograde, you would be wise to think before you speak, especially on the work front. Weigh your words carefully. Do they really have to be said?

♉ Taurus April 21 - May 21
You will get through chores, at home and at work, in record quick time today. You will also reach a decision about an offer you have been in two minds about taking.

♊ Gemini May 22 - June 21
Be very careful what you choose to believe today because the planets warn you will be open to negative propaganda. Anyone who tells you to follow their lead is not to be trusted. Listen to your inner voice.

♋ Cancer June 22 - July 23
Your powers of persuasion are usually very good but they may fail you today. You're trying too hard to convince others, and that makes them suspicious. Aim to be less forceful.

♌ Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
People in positions of power will say good things about you today but don't think you can rest on your laurels. You have gone up in their estimation, but you must work even harder to maintain your position.

♍ Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
As Mercury is linked to luck planet Jupiter today you'll get away with things today, but that's no excuse to behave badly. People will respect you more if you respect them.

♎ Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
There is no reason to hold back: give it all you've got and show the world what you are capable of. If you've been thinking about changing jobs or location now is the time to do it.

♏ Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
In your hurry to get ahead don't forget that other people have feelings too. Be careful what you say to work colleagues today because if they feel you are being unfair they will turn against you.

♐ Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Anyone who disagrees with you will wish they had kept their opinions to themselves. Mercury linked to Jupiter means you won't hesitate to point out their faults and failings.

♑ Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Do what has to be done and worry about the consequences later. The results will speak for themselves, so pay no mind if your attitude upsets other people.

♒ Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
You can afford to be optimistic and you can afford to take risks. A money-making opportunity will come your way. Don't waste time thinking about it — take action!

♓ Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
If you are told something of a privileged nature you must keep it to yourself. With Mercury, planet of communication, linked to Jupiter, planet of excess, there is a danger you will let slip information.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9



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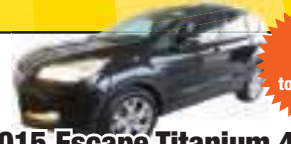
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